

THE
**GROUND-
HOPPER** 70p
FEB. 1988 MAGAZINE

No.6



INSIDE YOUR BUMPER 56-PAGE ISSUE

- ★ 4 PAGE PULL-OUT ON BURY TOWN ★ NEWS
- ★ SHOP-HOPPING ★ A MONTH IN EUROPE - PART 1
- ★ CLUB FILE FEATURES INCLUDE ALFRETON TOWN,
PONTLLANFRAITH, CAMBRIDGE CITY, WINSFORD UTD.
- ★ MY MONTH ★ ISLE OF WIGHT FOOTBALL PART II
- ★ PLUS ALL THE REGULAR FEATURES & PHOTOS ETC.

**THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR THE
INDEPENDENT NON-LEAGUE TRAVELLER!**

NON-LEAGUE

ACTION



Hythe Town (light shirts) v. Chertsey Town in FA Vase action. Photo: Nick Robinson.



Action from Leyland Motor's 3-0 home win over Prescot Cables in their NW Counties League Div.1 clash at Thurston Road. Photo: S. Jackson.

439 Merton Road, Wandsworth
London SW18 5LB

*Please note:
We do not accept telephone enquiries
relating to the magazine under any
circumstances. All communication
must be in writing to above address.*

Editorial

Editor: Steve King
Assistant Editor: Ron Jones
Regular Contributors include:
Chris Ashbridge
Tony Middleton
Richard Crabtree
Toby Jackson

Advertising

Display:
Quarter Page:
1 Issue £10; 3 Issues £27
Half Page:
1 Issue £18; 3 Issues £50
Full Page:
1 Issue £35; 3 Issues £90
Lineage:
Free of Charge
See Classifieds Section

Subscriptions

£10 for 12 Issues
Write to: Ron Jones
Subscriptions Department
24 Poplar Road, Wimbledon
London, SW19 3JR
Cheques/Postal Orders payable to:
"Groundhopper Magazine"
*Please remember to state which issue
you want your subscription to begin*

Production

Typing, Production and Design by
Steve King

Accounts

Ron Jones
Bankers: Barclays Bank
The Broadway, Wimbledon
London, S.W. 19

Printed by

Wimbledon Copy Bureau
267-261 Haydens Road
Wimbledon, SW19 8TY

Photography

Steve King

*The opinions expressed throughout
the magazine are not necessarily
those of the publishers*

COVER ACTION: FA Cup tie at
Dorset Heathside as they take
on Leatherhead at Merton Road.
Photo: Nick Robinson.

COMMENT

by
Steve King



IMPORTANT NOTICE

We regret to announce that due to the high postal costs in sending the magazine out to the club shops up and down the country that are currently stocking it, GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE will, from next month, be available on subscription only. We will not be supplying club shops with the magazine any more, as we are currently losing around £150 per issue by distributing it in this way, and this obviously cannot be allowed to go on.

With commission being paid to clubs who sell the magazine, and about 10p postage per copy on average to send quantities to clubs means that the more clubs who take the magazine, the bigger our losses.

The only way of receiving the magazine on a regular basis from now will be by taking out a subscription. There is an application form with this issue. If you normally buy this magazine at a ground, we urge you to take out a subscription as soon as possible, and you will then receive the magazine for the next 12 months.

Another major change is the announcement that GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE and the GROUNDHOPPER CLUB are to merge. Talks are currently going on between this magazine and Steve Pottit who runs the G.H. Club, and as soon as we have more details about the merger, we will bring them to you through the pages of this magazine. The future looks very exciting, and the planned merger means that you will get a brighter, better, more exciting magazine. There are some excellent ideas lined up, and this magazine will have a completely new look starting with our next issue for March 1988. Please turn to page 4 for further details of the new plans and for news of the exciting merger.

Steve King

Merger, mystery and suspense!

The Groundhoppers Club and GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE are joining forces to bring you one great magazine! The details of the merger are still at the negotiating stage at the time of writing but we have some exciting plans for the future. The merger will take place at the end of the season, and more details will be given in the months to come. And from next month, your G.H. Magazine will take on a new look, with new features, better layout, and even the cover is to have a facelift with a new style that we hope will be even more attractive than it is now. The announcement of the merger comes after initial talks between G.H. Mag and the G.H. Club, and we feel that with the two respective parties joining forces, a better product will result in the form of a magazine that all Non-League fans will be proud of. So, the scene is set for exciting times ahead. Let us know what YOU think of the merger idea.

News in brief

Cardiff Civil Service, South Gower and AFC Port Talbot are three clubs asking for Welsh League status. Ken Tucker, Welsh League secretary said, "It is refreshing to see clubs like South Gower applying. It is a long time since we have received application from a West Wales team."

WHITBY have started work on new dressing and club rooms, costing £30,000. They have already raised £18,000 towards them.

OSWESTRY TOWN, who at the "age" of 127 claim to be the oldest senior club in the country, face closure if they fail to find a new ground before the start of next season.

Oswestry were forced to sell their Victoria Road stadium for £165,000 earlier this season to pay off crippling debts. Plans for a new stadium on the outskirts of the town fell through due to the discovery of a covenant, dating from the turn of the century, which prevented development of the site for anything other than housing.

The experiment of Friday night football seems to have failed in the DNL. Blue Star expected a higher gate for their League Cup match versus Bishop Auckland, but only around 200 turned up.

Spennymoor expect to finish their £110,000 new stand in the near future.

Brundon have delayed the opening of their new Clubhouse until February.

* NEWS CONT'D ON PAGE 43

GROUNDHOPPER
MAGAZINE
7. 1987

No. 2



THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

THE GROUNDHOPPER CLUB JOURNAL -



INCLUDES A FULL RE-PRINT OF ISS. 1

THE HERONS ON SAFARI
LUTON COLLINGWOOD - AN EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

THE DRIFTING FOX

HOW MANY CASHIERS, CONVENTION NEWS,
FREE COMPETITION - WIN 2 BUCKEN BOWLS

HOPPING MAD

This appalling article that recently appeared in the Waterloo v. Andover programme has been sent to us by Kevin Richards of Nr. Totton, Hants. Kevin writes....

I am not a groundhopper but have recently seen your impressive magazine, and I don't know about you, but I believe this article smacks of sheer arrogance, bitterness, and petty mindedness. Everything local football isn't about. I shall be writing to Waterloo v. FC to show my disgust. I would be interested to hear your views and your readers views.

...Well, what do you think? We would be interested to hear your views. All the letters received at G.H. Magazine will be sent to Waterloo v.

Lynn in London

The column by exiled 'Villie fan, Peter Lynn

Villie's goalscoring form this season is undoubtedly going to attract a number of visits from a very strange breed of football fan - 'the groundhopper'. Instantly recognisable by his rucksack, shoulder bag and corned beef sandwiches, the groundhopper follows no one club, but chooses instead to travel to as many different grounds as possible (the more obscure the better) and make a nuisance of himself to the home club. Arriving at least an hour before the kick-off, our friend will buy at least a dozen copies of the matchday programme and then refuse to let you have a copy when you arrive too late, and they have all sold out. The sacred pruggies will remain firmly in his shoulder bag, wedged between his strapbook (which he insists on showing to as many people as possible, usually during the most exciting part of the game) and his battered British Rail timetable (apparently, sitting on freezing platforms with broken chocolate machines is half the fun). Owning a car certainly excludes you from this exclusive club (those with an IQ over 25 usually have to undergo an experience test before being allowed to join).

Once the game gets underway, the groundhopper will place himself straight in front of the dugouts, while insisting that the respective managers give him the team changes rather than worrying about the game. More often than not he will bump into someone else from the sect, possibly the librarian from Glascorbury that he met at Newcastle Blue Star the previous Monday evening. The rest of the match will then be spent swapping anecdotes about grounds visited in the far flung corners of the globe, each trying to outdo the other. The conversation will occasionally pause to record a throw-in or corner in their notebooks.

Take a look around the ground over the next few weeks - especially at evening matches - and watch out for the strangers who look as if they are on a day out on Wimbledon Common with their shoulder bags and corned beef sandwiches. You will notice how accurate the above description is. Notice also how a great number of them appear as social outcasts. Surely the main spotters of the 1950s, and the 'plane spotters' of the 1960s and 70s are now the groundhoppers of the 1980s.

If any of you reading this are groundhoppers, and there must be some here today, why not try to put something back into the game out of which you take so much? Non-league football needs as much help as possible. Go and give your local clubs the same enthusiasm you muster for your distant trips. If you ever have time to actually WATCH a game, you might even find a quite enjoyable, who knows?



Taken from the Waterloo v. Andover programme.

Tony Williams, Editor of the excellent F.A. Non-League Directory, which has just sold a staggering 14,000 copies, is to produce a new FA approved publication that all groundhoppers will be interested in. It will be an A4 size 400+ page book of Non-League grounds of all clubs in the FA Vase and Trophy, and is due out next November. Tony is still in need of photos of grounds, so if you can supply any, please write to him at 2 ELDER COTTAGES, MATCH BEAUCHAMP, TAUNTON, SOMERSET, TA3 6TH. All photos used will show the sender's name, and all can be returned on request. Ground photos are preferable, but if you only have action, these will do so long as the main feature of the ground is clearly shown, such as stand, etc. The book will contain other information such as club badge, how to get to the grounds, maps, etc, plus programmes.

DORCHESTER TOWN have become the latest Beazer League club to announce a major redevelopment of their ground. The Premier Division club say they will be unable to stay in the league if they fail to improve their Avenue Ground and have drawn up a scheme to completely redevelop the site with provision for a supermarket and office building. The seven-acre site will be split in two. The club retain half for the new ground built with funds raised by the sale of the remaining land. The club will seek planning permission for a ground that features a 600-seater stand, covered terracing on all sides and a total capacity of 7,000. They envisage a 30,000 square feet superstore.



RICHARD CRABTREE'S HOPPER WORLD

Practice, not theory

NEWS

THE trouble with writing for a monthly magazine is that no sooner has one issue been produced than the Editor wants the copy for the next one, especially with Christmas and New Year deadlines looming. Rather than launch into a hurried article about groundhopping in a particular country without the benefit of enough time to research it, I thought I would describe a typical weekend in Europe watching football (if such a thing exists).

The dateline was 19th December, the last Saturday before Christmas, a free weekend football-wise given that the club I support had elected to play on Friday evening and had scrambled three precious points. In the past I had concocted some wildly overambitious plans to do at least four games all in different countries on the same weekend starting in somewhere like Nantes and ending up in Liege, but the thought of such a trip was probably more exciting than the reality of almost non-stop train travel so these plans never came off. The basis of such a trip would be one game on a Friday night, two on Saturday (one afternoon and one in the evening) and one on a Sunday afternoon. This would include a cross-border dash between, say, Moenchengladbach and Venlo or Kaiserslautern/Homburg and Metz on the Saturday and would rely on all trains running on time. Probably why it sounds so appealing....

But I digress. My trip was no more adventurous than a quick hop to Antwerp near the border between Belgium and the Netherlands. A visit to the local British Rail Travel Centre on the Thursday before leaving secured a five-day European Saver to Antwerp for £33 plus a supplement on the Jetfoil on the outward journey. This extra was not absolutely necessary but it did help pass the crossing quicker and allow me to arrive in Antwerp shortly after three in the afternoon, having caught the 08.00 train from London. Watching the sea go by does get boring after about thirty seconds so anything that will liven up the journey such as an interesting book, is recommended.

The first priority on arrival was a place to stay. The Information Centre right outside the station told me the Youth Hostel was shut but gave me directions to a nearby Youth Centre. 500 francs (about £8) for a single room, a couple of hours fighting through the christmas shoppers in an attempt to do some sightseeing, and it was time to go to the first game. Antwerp currently has two teams in the First Division (Royal Antwerp and Beerschot) and one in the Second Division (Berchem Sport) and since Royal Antwerp were league leaders, it was to their ground in the North-East of the city that I headed for the match against Racing Jet of Brussels. The number twelve tram goes all the way from the Railway Station to Royal Antwerp's Bosuil Stadium as it does in the other direction to Beerschot's Kiel Stadium in the South West of the city. On arrival at the ground I bought a ticket for the covered standing area for 300 francs (£4 to £4.50) which turned out to be a paddock in front of a very English-style stand. Seeing that both ends rose very high in order to create a vast bowl, I decided to go to the one end that was open to get a better view. There is a club shop under

the terracing and the view was superb as Antwerp, leading by only 3-2 at half-time, ran in four goals to record a 7-2 win. The remainder of the ground is bench seating. A 48-page large format programme was available for 40 francs. The next day I travelled back towards Ostend, the port most convenient for train passengers, and got out at Bruges. Since the town has two teams (Club Brugge and Cercle or C.S.Brugge) who play at the same Olympiapark Stadium, there is virtually always a match on on a Sunday in the season. Club Brugge are the popular team and over 30,000 had been present to see Anderlecht play them the last time I had been there. Cercle, by contrast, are supported more by middle-class people, and have a hardcore of only about 2,000 fans. About that number were scattered about the impressive 32,000 capacity ground to see Charleroi, captained by English libero Kevin Pugh, beaten 3-1 in a match almost totally devoid of atmosphere and passion. The ground is modern with two splendid identical cantilever stands facing each other, each with standing room below, and covered terracing at each end. There are two different club shops under the west stand and different programmes are issued. Cercle's contains 24 very large pages and costs only 30 francs. Having left the match a few minutes early to get the number five bus back to the station, I saw the said bus hurtling past as I reached the main road. This entailed a run of some two miles back to the station for the five to five train to Ostend which connected with the 5.45 ferry to Dover. It also almost entailed a coronary for your scribe who found out just how unfit he was! Nevertheless, the last train from Dover to London on a Sunday evening was caught with at least six minutes to spare and all was well. Unfortunately, my claim for travel expenses was met with stony indifference by the Editor who informed me that the shoestring on which this magazine was run had snapped the previous week. What a life.....

RICHARD CRABTREE

NEXT MONTH

IN... THE **GROUND-HOPPER** MAGAZINE

Next month sees the launch of a new-look GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE. Yes, there will be a new-style cover, a new look to the pages, and some new features too. Here's just SOME of the great things lined up for next month:-

- * Part 2 of Colin Peel's "Month in Europe" feature, with lots of photos, too.
- * There will be a new look to our "Club File" features, with even more details of grounds, maps, programmes, photos, etc. Among those featured next month will be: EXMOUTH TOWN, LANCASTER CITY, WITTON ALBION, VALE OF LEVEN (Scottish Central Junior League), and ABERGAVENNY THURSDAYS.
- * Instead of the usual 4-page pull-outs, there will be a four page feature on a club inside the magazine's pages, giving just as much information, etc. Who will it be next month? Read the March 1988 issue and find out!
- * Our centre pages will now be used for action and ground photos, and the first spread of superb photos will appear next month.
- * We'll have that AUSTRALIAN Non-League football feature, held over from this month due to lack of space.
- * There will be all the usual features including "My Month", "Shop Hopper", plus all the great letters, photos and news that makes GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE the best magazine on Non-League football currently available.
- * There will be more news on the merger between the G.H.Club and GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE.
- * There's Part 1 of a new series on Non-League football in Oxon.
- * Plus lots, lots, more!

AND REMEMBER: From next month, you cannot buy the magazine at Non-League grounds. Subscribe today!

**THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR THE
INDEPENDENT NON-LEAGUE TRAVELLER!**



GET WRITING!

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY. What do you think of the magazine? Do you have any amusing groundhopper tales? Do you have any comments about Non-League Football in general? Write to:

Hopper Post, Groundhopper Magazine
439 Merton Road, Wandsworth,
London, SW18 1LB

Dear GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE,
Having just received the January 1988 issue of G.H.M. I feel I must write to complain about a particular article. The article in question was one written by Mr. Colin Peel on 'My ten favourite grounds in Non-League football'. It was his worst grounds selection which I considered inappropriate (not that I have ever visited any of these grounds). Your published disclaimer doesn't justify this negative attitude by Mr. Peel and really it does nothing to promote Non-League football. However bad the conditions of these clubs, I feel sure their respective Directors, Officials and supporters, etc are doing their best to improve facilities. To read this article by Mr. Peel must have been soul destroying to them, when we should be attempting to encourage them.

I would appeal to you, Steve, as magazine editor, to consider carefully before publishing this type of criticism in future, otherwise rival clubs could use this excellent magazine to 'slag off' each other. Finally, I hope you take this complaint in the spirit it was intended.

PETER A HINDMARCH, BLYTH SPARTANS S.C. ASS. SECRETARY, 20 KINGSDALE AVENUE, COMPER ESTATE, BLYTH, NORTHUMBRIA.

Editor's Reply:- Thank's for the letter, Peter. To be honest, we didn't want to feature this type of article in the first place, but as several people had written in with local favourite grounds, we decided to publish to see what sort of reaction we would get. In hindsight, we feel we made a mistake

and will, in future, only publish features that promote Non-League football, and in particular, individual clubs. We will leave any controversy and slanging off to other magazines.

Dear GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE,
On Saturday 5th December, with fellow 'Hopper' Brian Jones, I went and visited Pickering Town v. Wombwell SA who play in the N.C. East Div.2, and our exploits might be of some use to anyone who is contemplating visiting there. As we do not have a car, and have to rely on public transport, the first leg of the journey was by Nat. Express coach to Leeds, arriving at 9.15 and a steady walk to Vicar Lane Bus Station to catch the 9.50am Scarborough bus to Malton, arriving at 11.30. Here, we had an hour's wait before catching a number 92 bus to Pickering, arriving at 1.00pm (bus stop outside ground behind Police and Fire stations). The long journey was rewarded by the hospitality shown to us by officials and staff of Pickering Town in us around the ground and the facilities on offer. As the Social Club was not open before the game, they directed us to the nearest pub, for a swift half. The pitch is wired off through posts and there is covered accommodation for about 100 down one side. A 24-page programme was issued, about 50% adverts and 50% information, together with some photos of previous games, and at 20p, excellent value. Pickering Town won a hard but fair game 2-0 but Wombwell, who had a new manager, put in plenty of effort and should not be long before results start

going their way.

After the game, there was just time for another swift half in the Social Club before catching the 92 bus at 4.00pm outside the ground back to Malton and finally reaching Manchester at 9.15pm, but well worth it. I would recommend a visit to Pickering Town to any 'hopper'.

RON BAGSHAW, 24 BURGIN WALK, COLLYHURST VILLAGE, MANCHESTER, M10 4JR.

Dear GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE,

Apart from my fortnightly visits to watch Wimbledon, and my occasional away trips with the Dons, when I can, me and the dog go roaming around the home counties to Non-League football matches. Most games are in the evening so the teams I watch are normally in the Vauxhall-Opel League, but when I don't go away with the Wombles, one young man and his dog, brief case and white stick go to other leagues, where there are grounds I cannot get to in midweek, either because of their distance or because they have no lights. My dog is actually a retired guide dog which belonged to my mother. The dog is an 11½ year old white lab with the name of Broddie. I take her as company and as a helpful guide in the dark, even if only on the lead. The ground I last visited was Gigg Lane, Brockenhurst and I will now tell about my visit. I arrived at Brockenhurst on a train from Waterloo at 1.15, with the kick-off not until 3pm, so I decided to give the dog a run in the New Forest. I arrived at 2.30, paid my 70p entrance and 10p programme and then had a look inside the Clubhouse, mainly to spend a penny. With the bar not open until 4pm, those in the Clubhouse were watching TV or playing pool. As for the ground, there were two stands, an old wooden one behind the near goal next to the tea bar, with a capacity of 70, and the other along one side of the pitch above the dressing rooms, having four long rows of wooden bench seating for 150. With concrete hard standing behind the near goal and up to the main stand, and on the side was just grass. With the capacity of Grigg Lane something in the region of 1,800 with 250 being covered bench seating, it is quite small but compact. They have ten pylons, each with 3 lights, making a total of 30. A supporter told me

that they obtained the lights from Southampton 7 or 8 years ago.

As for the game, it was a Wessex League match, which the ex-London Spartan League side won 3-1. Thatcham scored in the 33rd, 60th and 61st minutes and with Brockenhurst scoring in the 35th minute. With the attendance being around 50, the programme had 20 pages, 9 of these being ads, the front card cover showing the name of the club and ground, and giving the name of the club sponsors. Also there was a picture of a badger all in blue ink on white. A nice programme to go with a nice and friendly little club, and ground. One thing that did surprise me was the cattle grids around the town, and even one in the entrance of the football ground. The reason for these were so that the ponies in the New Forest would not go onto the main roads and get run over.

Sorry I could not send any photos of the ground due to my visually handicapped reasons as I am not very good in taking photos in such bad conditions. And as for the dog, she took more interest in making friends with the ponies than watching the football.

So, in total, a nice afternoon out, especially as I had time to have a wander into the New Forest.

2 STANCOMBE, 3 WESTLANDS TERRACE, BALHAM, LONDON, SW12 9PD.

Dear GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE,

Being a South Liverpool supporter, I recently attended the 3 matches v. Lincoln City in the FA Trophy. In the 2nd replay at Lincoln, a strange decision by referee Mr. Makin greeted us during the second half. A South player booted the ball towards the Lincoln area, the City goalkeeper came out to meet the ball, the only player around was an on-coming South player, but with the ball bobbling in the mud, the keeper bent down and touched the ball with his hand, realising he was outside the area. He raced back to his goal and I expected a free kick and maybe a booking for the goalie. The referee not only didn't book him, he waved play on. Can anyone explain that? With luck like that, Lincoln have their name on the FA Trophy already this season!

PAUL COTTIER, 3 BEXHILL CLOSE, SPEKE, LIVERPOOL 24.

MY TEN FAVOURABLE IN NON-LEAGUE

As a regular supporter of Wealdstone FC over the last 22 years my travels have taken me to 138 different Non-League grounds, in addition to 48 of the Football League grounds whilst straying to savour the delights of Chelsea pre Dave Sexton's mutilation. Picking ten favourite Non-League grounds is no easy task as so many hold different memories, but here goes:-

1) BOSTON UNITED: This is quite simply the finest ground outside the Football League as anyone who has been to York Street will testify. If the club could match what they have created in bricks and mortar with a comparable team, it would be soaring up the Football League by now. The only criticism has been the demise of the Club Shop on safety grounds in recent seasons.

2) BURNHAM: The second Qualifying round of the F.A. Cup in 1975 took us to the then Hellenic League club Burnham. A month later we were to go down 4-3 to Third Division Aldershot in a later round, but at Burnham it was Wealdstone as the Southern League Premier division side who were possible giant-killing victims. A crowd of 892 at The Gore made it an occasion to remember with the home club supplying everything from Scots pipers to refreshments for all, way beyond their normal capabilities. The effort put in to make us welcome gives Burnham a place in my top ten.

3) BOSTON: No, I haven't repeated myself! A pre-season Friendly in August 1975 took us to the Midland League Champions most recently seen in the Northern Counties (East) League. In 80 degrees of sunshine the home side put 4 goals past us as well as hitting the woodwork twice, but what I most recall was the finest playing surface ever witnessed described in our local paper as "...only the presence of the goalposts belied the fact that it was not a bowling green".

4) FRICKLEY ATHLETIC: Perhaps the eeriest atmosphere I have experienced was on a freezing winter afternoon at South Elmsall. The fog was so thick that one could not see the width of the pitch never mind from one end of the pitch to the other. Having ventured round the ground for a hot drink only the shouts of our die-hard supporters behind the far goal informed me that we had scored. A small fire started near the players' tunnel added to the lack of visibility and the famous slag-heap running the length of one side of the pitch cast a ghostly silhouette over the proceedings. What springs to mind even more than the strange atmosphere of this match was the welcome given to our travelling fans - pies and black pudding to reward us for our perseverance in reaching the game with the compliments of a very courteous club which hopefully will soon be back in the Conference.

5) GLOUCESTER CITY: The first leg of the Southern League Cup Final in April 1982 saw a 2300 crowd assemble at Horton Road to provide an electric atmosphere for a prestigious occasion. Our 19-year old full-back won the game with a volley from the edge of the penalty box. His name? None other than Stuart Pearce now Captain of Nottingham Forest and an England Cap. This game in a huge stadium was one of the tensest I can remember and I witnessed one of the best ever goalkeeping performances from Ray Goddard to set us up for the second leg.

6) FARNBOROUGH TOWN: I was really impressed on my only visit to Cherrywood

THE GROUNDS FOOTBALL BY TOBY JACKSON

Road. Not only were the home team superb in an 8 goal feast, but the whole set-up smacked of a club really on the way up. Their present rise to the top of the Vauxhall-Opel League since then has backed my optimistic belief. A n excellent view from the stand, a superb variety of refreshments and a good Club Shop. What more could one want?

7) RS SOUTHAMPTON: The demise of this club is in my mind tragic and I class myself as being fortunate to have managed to see the ground for a Southern League fixture a few seasons ago. When I walked into the Road-as Park stadium, it immediately struck me as a model ground. If I had to start from scratch and design a ground I could not have designed a more pleasing, neat and picturesque format. An excellent clubhouse and a superb playing surface completed the top class impression I formed and I think it very sad that circumstances led to the club's demotion.

8) SOUTH BANK: Fellow Wealdstone supporters will be amazed that I have selected the Northern Leaguers as a favourite ground. Our visit there for a Thursday evening F.A. Trophy replay in March 1986 saw us relieved of the Trophy we had clinched at Wembley the previous May and commence a run of 15 games with only one win up to the end of that season. It was quite a feat reaching this Northern outpost by public transport for a mid-week game but the atmosphere made the effort worthwhile. The crowd of 1147 was 10 times larger than some of the club's League attendances and the cold night added to the giant-killing occasion. One could not help but feel privileged to be part of a most exciting night for the home club and their hospitality before our long journey home eased the disappointment.

9) BATH CITY: Another strange choice for a Wealdstone supporter as the Avon side are a "bogey" side that we rarely seem to beat. Nevertheless Bath remains one of my favourite cities in England and as soon as the fixture is known I hurry to book up a week-end away in the area. The setting of the ground in the hills would no doubt appeal to Steve Pettit after reading his selection of favourite grounds. Once again the absence of the Club Shop as safety grounds coupled with a suspect playing surface are the main faults detracting from the pleasure of visiting Twerton Park.

10) WEALDSTONE: I could hardly leave out my own club after so many years! When I moved to the Harrow area I tried one game at every local ground having become hooked on Non-League football as an 8-year old at Kingstonian and Hampton. Something special appealed to me at Lower Weald that I could not put into words though of course it was a superb team in action then in those Amateur Cup winning days. The terrace humour and the family feel of the away support to see the Stones in action elsewhere kept me hooked at Lower Weald and I am still there 22 years later. Despite the abysmal football currently on offer I expect I'll still be there in another 22 years' time!

Further to our comment on Page 8 of this month's issue, we will not be publishing any more of your selections as the Top 10 Grounds feature that contain descriptions of local League grounds, such as that which was published in last month's issue.

Our magazine is trying to promote Non-League football, not destroy the image of individual clubs through negative comments and remarks. We are sure that the people running all Non-League clubs do not intentionally let their grounds deteriorate, and it is only through lack of cash and support that some grounds are lacking in facilities.

CLUB FILE



FOCUS ON....

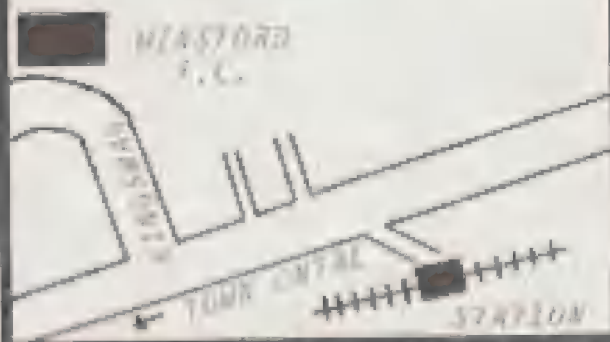
Winsford U.

WINSFORD United, of the Northern Premier League First Division, play at the Barton Stadium in an 8,000 capacity ground that also houses a greyhound track around the outside.

Situated about 11 miles from Nantwich and 16 miles from Chester, it is 165 miles from London in Cheshire. Travel by train from Euston costs £21.00 (Railcard holders pay £13.85), with a change at Crewe. Recommended train times as follows if you wish to have a look around the town before the game:- Euston 09.00, Arr: Crewe 11.03, Dep: Crewe 11.35 (Plat 10), Arr: Winsford 11.45. Coming back, the times are as follows: Winsford 17.10, Arr: Crewe 17.23, Dep: Crewe 18.07, Arr: Euston 20.10.

From the station, it is a 12-15 minute walk to the ground. Just go into the main road from the station, turn left, and keep walking until you get near to the bottom of the hill. Turn right into Kingway, and follow the road round and you will see the ground and lights behind the houses. There are buses from the station, K33, K37, X19, X20, X21 go to the ground which is about 1/4 mile walk. There are a few pubs on the way to the ground, and recommended are The Oddfellows Arms, a Chester pub, or Fogarty's, another Chester's pub. On the car park corner of the ground, you

HOW TO GET TO THE GROUND AT WINSFORD UTD F.C.



will see The Top House, a Whitbread pub. At the bottom of Wharton Road, by the bridge is The Red Lion, a Greenall White pub, and opposite is Chasers, a pub serving meals from 12-2 although this is rather a noisy drinking establishment. Probably the best of the bunch is The Ark, a quiet pub serving bitter at 80p a pint. Try it! The town centre is the usual indoor-type shopping precinct, but for food, try the quite excellent Hunnigan Restaurant, they have an extensive menu. For a cheaper meal, Lee's Fish Bar serves good fish and chips in the shopping centre.

The ground itself has a large car park with a reasonable Social Club outside the ground (see photo) serving a range of

beers at reasonable prices. Unfortunately if you like to be close to the action, this is not a ground to go because of the greyhound track around the pitch. Admission to go costs £11.20, no programmes cost 45p. You will enter the ground behind the goal and to your left you will see the glass-front groundstand, which is quite handy for very cold days, and there is also a licensed bar.



The entrance at Barton Stadium.

Just to the side of this grandstand are the club offices and a tea bar, serving excellent meat & potato pies, hot & cold drinks and confectionery. In front of the grandstand, there are three rows of tip-up seats, and at the far side are the dressing rooms and the officials room. Behind the far goal there is flat standing in front of a high concrete wall and along the other side of the ground there is very low covered standing areas, so if you are over 6' tall, beware! There is a kiosk at the back of this area too, but they only serve hot drinks. Just to the left of the turnstiles, there are two tiny standing areas with cover, where a lot of fans gather on a wet day.

As mentioned earlier, the programme has a rather unusual cover price of 45p, and for what you get, it is quite pricey. The cover has a blue and white cover, with the club's badge and match details shown (see right), and contains 24 pages in all. It contains all the usual features such as news, league tables, pen-pictures etc, with quite an unusual centre-page statistics spread, with fixtures and results and complete line-ups of all the Winsford United teams throughout the season including goalscorers. The team line-ups for the day's match are on the back page. Over half the pages contain adverts which makes this programme poor value for money.

There are three floodlight pylons on each side of the ground, each one having three bulbs. There are two local newspapers, The Winsford Chronicle which comes out on Thursday's at 22p, and the Winsford Guardian, also out on Thursday's at 25p. The Chronicle seems to give better coverage to United, with good preview news of the forthcoming games, and match reports of the previous week's matches. If you want information about the club, phone 0405 93021, for programme information, phone Editor Andrew Maylor on 0406 594681, and for other information, write to Secretary Peter Warburton, 1 Massey Avenue, Wharfedale, Winsford, Cheshire.

Incidentally, if you are travelling to the ground by car, from North: Junction 19 (M6) take A333 through Saverton. From South: Junction 18, take A34 for

Middlewich. Barton Stadium is quite off main road in the Wharfedale area of Winsford.

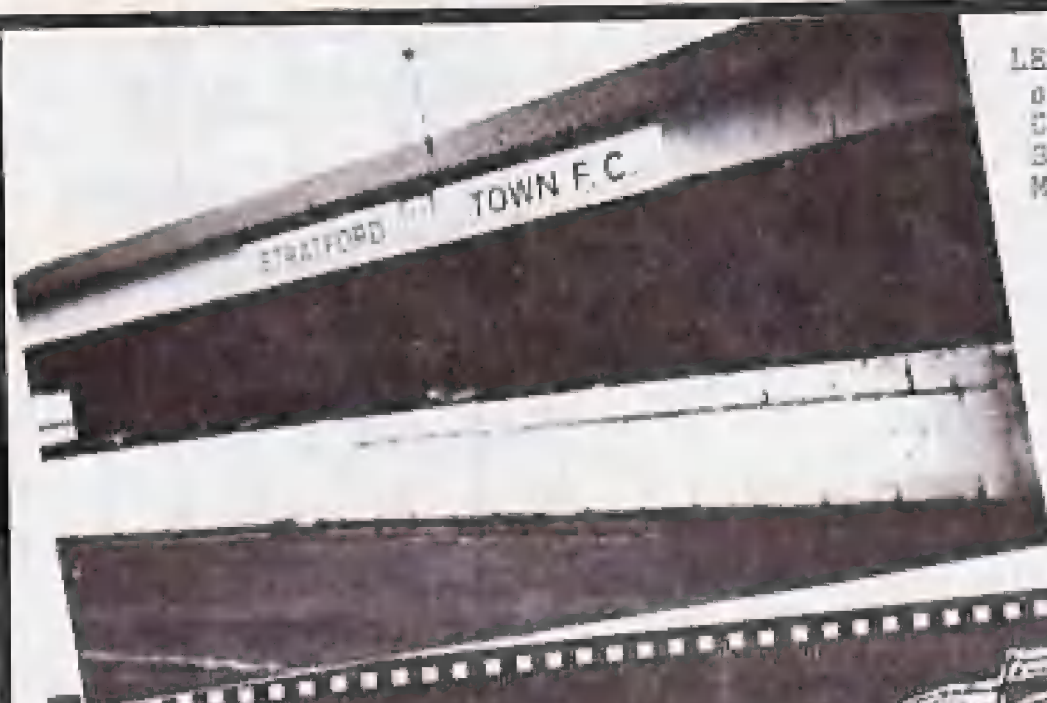
There is not a Club Shop at the ground, although a Club retail badge has been produced.

Don't forget! If you want to visit the Social Club, it is outside the ground so go there first before going in.

Information and Photos supplied by Steve King.



The Social Club at Winsford United.

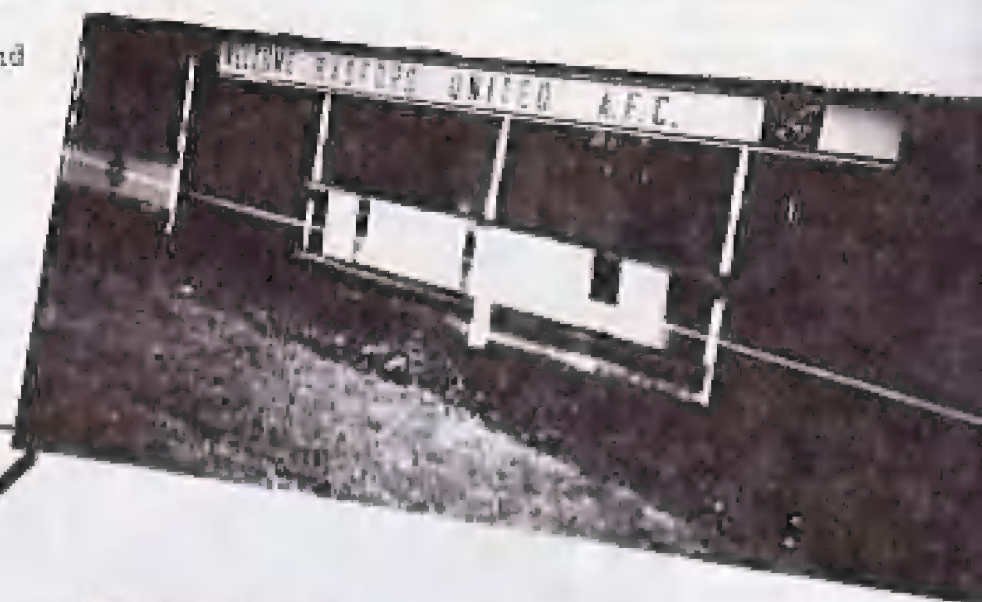


LEFT : The 200-seater stand at Midland Combination Leaguers Stratford Town's Mason's Road ground.

Photo:
Ren Bagshaw



RIGHT : The main stand at Basford United.
Photo : Ren Bagshaw



LEFT:
The main 400-seater stand at Hops St., home of Prescot Cables.
Photo:
Colin Peck



NON-LEAGUE NONSENSE

We want to hear about the funny, amusing, silly, trivial or downright daft Non-League stories that you have heard, so that we can feature them here. Write to:- Non-League Nonsense, Groundhopper Magazine, 214 Marston Road, Wandsworth, London, SW18

Er...sorry it's wrong team!

DURING the FA Cup 2nd Round 3rd Re-play between MAIDSTONE UNITED and KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS, the 2,052 crowd were in fits of laughter when the gent on the tannoy proclaimed midway through the 2nd half, "And the 1st sub for Kettering is...."

A few years ago, Colin Dredge, the Somerset C.U.C. pace bowler, was playing for Frome Town in an F.A. Trophy tie away at Boston Utd. The Pilgrims won 1-0 and midway through the second half, Frome were awarded a free-kick just outside the area, a forward stepped up and booted it over the old stand. As soon as this happened, a voice boomed from the terracing, "Dredge'll be happy now, they're bringing a new ball on."

Eric Snow of Windsor writes:- One of the funniest football stories I know happened some years ago. I was on duty patrolling a gardens area one Saturday afternoon. A match was on in the Recreation ground and I wandered over to ask a goalkeeper what teams were playing. He complained that his team kept losing owing to the poor play of the defenders in front of him. Apparently, they were always scoring own goals. He stressed that this was happening every week. He sooner had he said this the opponents set up an attack. He came out to collect the ball and his right-back took a wild swing at the ball and put it through his own goal. The 'keeper turned to me pitifully and said, "You can see what I mean, can't you?"

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! When a lady physiotherapist was appointed at Wellingford Town a couple of years ago, her first comments on entering the dressing rooms were, "I've seen it all before - but not always at a time!"

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! A ball was once kicked out of Wokingham's ground during a game and landed in the railway track that runs along the side of the ground, and was pushed away by an oncoming train.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! A rabbit once ran onto the field during a game at Windsor & Eton, which is crown land, and adjoins Windsor Great Park.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! In the 1968/69 season, Wokingham Town pointed the midgets of their ground so that which programme we know as Junior instead of Lady.

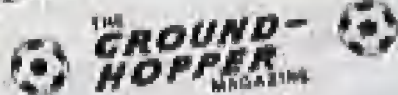
BELIEVE IT OR NOT! In the match between Tongham Youth Club, Surrey and Hawley, Hampshire on 3rd November 1969, the referee booked a linesman and all 22 players, including one who went to hospital!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! 24,000 copies of the 22 Non-League Abstracts 1970 have been sold, the best sales ever. It was completely sold out before Christmas for the first time.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT! In a National Division Welsh League clash a couple of years ago between Bridgend and Maesteg, two substitutes came on at the same time (one for each club) and they were brothers. Tony and Drew Phillips came on for Bridgend and Maesteg respectively.

Keep those "Non-League Nonsense" stories coming in. We'll publish these we receive in later issues.

CLUB FILE



FOCUS ON....

Alfreton Tn.

ALFRETON Town play in the Northern Premier League Division One after winning the Northern Counties East F.L. last season, and play their home games at North Street, Alfreton (known as the Town Ground). The capacity is approximately 6,000, out of which there are about 120 seats in the main stand on the far side opposite the changing rooms. This corrugated structure is painted in the club colours of red and white, and also incorporates standing room at either side of the seated section, the seats within this enclosure are of the tip-up variety. The small area directly in front of the changing rooms is cordoned off from the public and

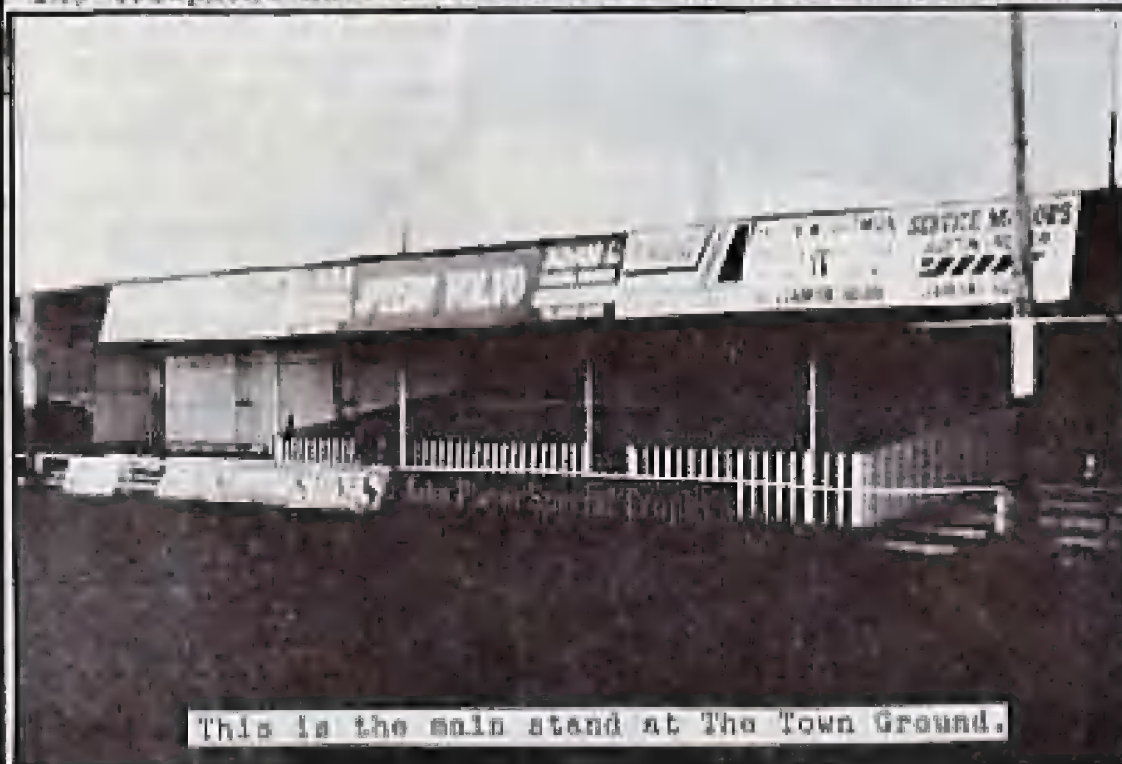
has been made into an open seating area in order to accommodate club and visiting officials. This seats 40. Behind the bottom goal there is a grass banking that rises about seven feet from the pitch level whilst at the top end there is a covered enclosure where there are about six steps of concrete terracing. This structure stands about twenty feet from the playing area perimeter fencing.

There are two refreshment bars at the Town Ground, well stocked with all the usual items although one of the local delicacies is mushy peas which most of the home supporters purchase without the customary pork pie (and mint sauce) as is common at most northern based clubs. The main tea hut is well situated just inside the main spectator entrance so no-one could possibly miss it. Public bar facilities are available to visiting supporters in the form of a clubhouse which is located just outside the ground. There is a large concert room, two rooms having just been added to include a games room and lounge at the cost of £30,000.

Parking is adequate as the area for the clubhouse doubles up as parking for the ground, and as well as this, there is adequate parking in the streets. The matchday programme has changed twice so far this season, starting off the season with a glossy cover in red and white with a photo on the front and containing 16 pages including 7½ pages of adverts, but now containing a plain red and white cover and only 12 pages (see next page). Normal midweek matches are played on a Wednesday, with a 7.30pm kick-off. Anyone desiring to stay in the district will find plenty of places offering accommodation including The King Alfred, The Plough, and two miles away at Junction 29 of the M1 is the Swallow Hotel.

The telephone number at the club for match news, information or enquiries

is Alfreton (0773) 834707. Admission prices to games are £1.20 for Northern Premier League matches, with OAP's and children playing 60p. Like most clubs, attendances in later years have been declining, with the average now being about 200, a long cry from the days when a local derby with Matlock Town would regularly attract between 2,000 and 3,000. The standard of



This is the main stand at The Town Ground.

the floodlighting could be improved, as when trying to follow the play on the far side of the field for evening games, it is sometimes quite difficult, especially with the problem of the players shadows across the field. This is particularly important due to the fact that professional rugby league is also played at the Town Ground, being the home of Mansfield Maroons.

There are several local papers which anyone visiting Alfreton would be interested in reading. Derbyshire Times gives a complete review of matches and behind-the-scenes activities. Derby Evening Telegraph and the Nottingham Post give full coverage of matches in Saturday sports papers and Monday's edition. Also there are the Freebies, The Alfreton Echo and The Free Press.

If travelling from London by train, go from

ALFRETON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Price



25p

ALFRETON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED MEMBERSHIP IS
 OPENED FOR THE 1988-89 SEASON. A FULL
 LIST OF MEMBERSHIP RATES AND CONDITIONS OF
 MEMBERSHIP IS AVAILABLE FROM THE CLUB SECRETARY.
 MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB IS OPENED FOR THE 1988-89
 SEASON. A FULL LIST OF MEMBERSHIP RATES AND
 CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP IS AVAILABLE FROM THE
 CLUB SECRETARY. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLUB IS OPENED
 FOR THE 1988-89 SEASON. A FULL LIST OF MEMBERSHIP
 RATES AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP IS AVAILABLE
 FROM THE CLUB SECRETARY.

ALFRETON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED MEMBERSHIP IS
 OPENED FOR THE 1988-89 SEASON. A FULL
 LIST OF MEMBERSHIP RATES AND CONDITIONS OF
 MEMBERSHIP IS AVAILABLE FROM THE CLUB SECRETARY.

Official Programme



St. Pancras in Alfreton & Mansfield Parkway. Trains leave at 08.42 and 11.15, arriving at 11.07 and 13.55, changing at Nottingham. Coming back, it leaves at 17.59, arriving back in London at 20.33, changing at Reading. Fare is about £14.00 with discounts for railcard holders. If going by car, take the

M1 motorway turn off number 28 and follow the A18 towards Derby for approx. 2 miles and then take the B600 side road. Turn right and head for the Town centre for 1 mile and North Street is on the left.
 * Our thanks to Mr T McCoy, Secretary of Alfreton Town FC, and Phil Bell of Leeds for all the above information and photos, etc.



And here's the area behind one of the goals.

NON- LEAGUE BOOKSHELF

Each month in NON-LEAGUE BOOKSHELF, we review up to three Non-League publications, giving an independent assessment in terms of content, value, quality, etc. If you have a current-season Non-League publication to be reviewed on these pages, please send it to us at the address on page 3 and we will review it here. It can be a handbook, seasonly publication, magazine, souvenir brochure, indeed anything as long as it has a connection with Non-League football. Everything sent in can be retained on request.

The new GROUNDHOPPERS CLUB JOURNAL No.4 is now out and as well as a 24-page issue, there is a 16-page re-print of Issue 3. There is full details of the Salzworth MW convention, an article by George Osborne about his adventures watching football in Gibraltar and Morocco, details about grounds in the mid-Cheshire League, football in Norfolk, an article by Tony Middleton reflecting on that troubled Luton v. Millwall FA Cup tie a few years ago, hopping in Italy, letters, great competition, photos and lots more. Although Issue 4 was a long time coming, it is a good read and if you would like details of the club and the journal, write to:- *John Peirce, 31 Sanday Road, Macclesfield, Staffordshire, ST12 5BT. SIZE: 148mm x 210mm. NO. OF PAGES: 24 + RE-PRINT ISSUE 3. VALUE: 7 OUT OF 10.*

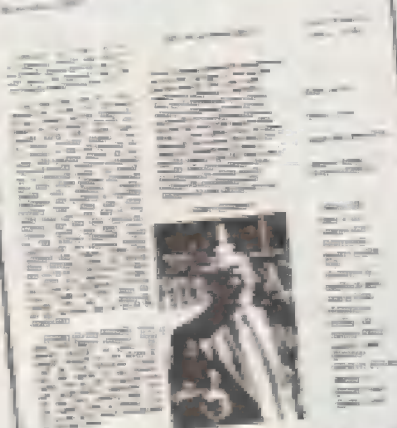
THE GROUNDHOPPERS CLUB JOURNAL - NO. 4



INCLUDES A FULL
RE-PRINT OF ISS. 3

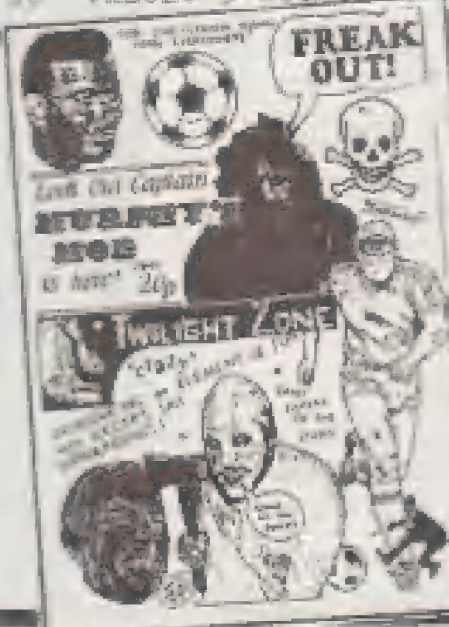
THE GROUNDHOPPERS CLUB JOURNAL
NO. 4
PRICE: 7p
VALUE: 7 OUT OF 10

CLUB SOCCER



I had to laugh when I received Issue 1 (November '87) of CLUB SOCCER, the new Non-League magazine that seems to have taken for ever to arrive! I actually received it in January 1988. I've heard of late despatching but this is taking things a little too far don't you think? And not even an explanation! And oh dear, it really does make The Guardian look interesting. Printed on large A4 pages, it has a very dull presentation, the photos are of varying quality, and most of the reading is of press releases (ie: player transfers, managerial changes etc) more....more.... They promise MORE colour in Issue 2 (December) which will probably arrive at Easter! Well, it would be impossible to have less as this is all in b&w. SIZE: 213mm x 297mm. PRICE: 5p. PAGES: 36. VALUE: 3 OUT OF 10.

One of the best Supporters Club magazines to come out for a long time is the offering from Cheltenham town called MURPHY'S MOB, and at 20p is ridiculously good value. Although only photocopied and the type could be improved, it contains some excellent articles and amusing features, and as can be seen from the front cover this rag doesn't take itself or what is written in it too seriously. It is full of drawings, cut-outs and funny stories and as the cover boasts... "introducing an element of fun into soccer's dull surroundings". If you want a good laugh, a good read and a good few bob change from a pound, get writing today for a copy at 20p + s.a.e. to:- "Murphy's Mob" 46 Long Mynd Avenue, St. Nethewley, Cheltenham, Glos. GL51 5QA. SIZE: 146mm x 210mm. PRICE: 20p. PAGES: 20. VALUE: 9 OUT OF 10.



Groundhopper Competition

BIG PRIZES

EVERY MONTH!



This month, the winner will receive a VHS video, BBC-approved, called "101 Great Goals" with 65 great minutes of 101 of the best goals shown on TV since 1969, including those from Charlton, Best and Keegan, plus Greaves, Law and more.

HOW TO ENTER

The
**GROUND-
HOPPER**
MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 1988
COMPETITION

Name.....

Address.....

Photo caption (in no more than 25 words) as follows:-

Entries MUST be received by
Wednesday 17th February 1988.
Please send to:- February '88
Competition, GROUNDHOPPER
MAGAZINE, 43rd Norton Road,
Mundaysville, London, SW18 5LN.

This month, all you have to do is to take a good look at the unusual photo above, taken at a top-league game. There is no more than 25 words, that's all, in writing a caption to go with the picture, as to what the player with the ball is saying is the day's thought after him.

You can either complete the form and send it in with your caption, or you can send in the whole page, and write the caption in the little provided with the photo. Or, you can send in your entry on plain paper if you do not wish to put up your name. Entries MUST be received by Wednesday 17th February, and the editor will choose the most amusing entry as the winner. Results announced in our March 1988 issue. He may also feature some of the other captions and in as well if they are funny enough. In last month's competition, we did not receive any entries again, so obviously there are no prizes won!

GROUNDHOPPER

PROFILE No.6



David Collins

David Collins is 32 years of age and lives in Cardiff. He has followed Non-League football for over 20 years, having started watching his (then) local club Wimbledon when they joined the Southern League.

David says, "I followed Wimbledon home and away in the late sixties and early seventies and always enjoyed visiting new grounds, but I stopped travelling regularly to away games after violent incidents at Gran-

tham and King's Lynn in 1973." After moving to Cardiff in 1980, David's visits to Plough Lane became less frequent, but it is only in the last couple of years that he has returned to non-league football. Although he watched quite a few non-league games last season, David tells us that his enthusiasm for the non-league scene was really re-kindled by watching Merthyr win the Welsh Cup and by the timely appearance of GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE.

"At the start of the season," David goes on, "I decided to combine occasional trips to Wimbledon with monthly visits to Merthyr and visits to as many Welsh League grounds as I can manage. I average about one game a week, because my groundhopping adventures have to fit in with my working and family life." (David works as a Senior Principal with a Government Department called SOGD, managing it's Computer Division, and is married with 2 children, Clare (7) and Robert (4)).

In the larger non-league grounds, David looks most of all for atmosphere and 'identity' and rates Merthyr's Pen-y-darren Park as his favourite ground. "But of the Welsh League grounds I have visited, I particularly like the Rhondda grounds at Ton Pentre and Ferndale where the welcome is always friendly and the surroundings are full of character. I hope that by contributing to GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE I can help attract a few more spectators to Welsh League soccer, which I believe is under-exposed, particularly in publications like the Non-League Directory."

We want to hear from some of our readers with a view to being featured here in the "Profile" page. Write a piece about yourself on similar lines to the one featured above and send it to us, together with a recent colour and black and white photo of yourself, and we will feature you in a future issue of GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE.

PAPER TALK

THE WEST
South COUNTRY
London
Press
Walsleyton Mercury
Independent

**A MONTHLY LOOK AT LOCAL PAPERS UP AND DOWN THE
COUNTRY WITH NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL COVERAGE !!!**

This is the first in the current series of "Paper Talk" features. It will be back with a new Journal in September 1982 when we shall be reviewing what might prove to be some of the best papers in the country. The series will be a regular feature of the magazine.

HARROW OBSERVER-THURSDAYS-25pence.

The football content is disappointing considering the size of the newspaper (112 pages). There are reviews of the matches featuring Wembley, Harrow Borough, Wembley, Kingsbury Town, Rayners Lane, Edgware Town and Harrow St Mark's, but little else. Published by Middlesex County Press Ltd, 34 Greenhill Way, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 1TT.

BANBURY GUARDIAN-Thursdays-10pence.

Good coverage of Banbury Utd, Eastington Sports and Brackley Town. Also covers, in brief, the Banbury & District and other local leagues. Published by part of English Newspapers Ltd, 40 The Green, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9AH.

SURREY ADVERTISER-Fridays-20pence.

Leatherhead, Woking and Dorking are widely featured. Farnham Town, Cranleigh, Ash Utd, Rayshot and Camberley Town are also included. Excellent for fixtures and results from Div-Air League and Surrey County Premier League. Published by Surrey Advertiser Ltd, Martyr Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4LD.

ILFORD RECORDER-Thursdays-15pence.

Plenty of sport is covered in its 92 pages, but very little of it features the local non-League teams. West Ham Utd get saturation coverage, but Leytonstone Ilford, Woodford Town and Barkingside are restricted to a few lines. Published by South Essex Recorders Ltd, High Road, Ilford, Essex.

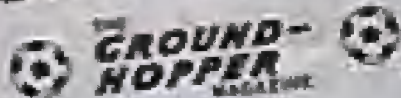
WILTSHIRE GAZETTE & HERALD-Thursdays-25pence.

Quite good coverage of Chippenham Town, Calke Town, Midsomerham Town and Purton. Also gives a round-up of Wiltshire County League and North Berks League, with league tables. Published by Wiltshire Newspapers, 14 Market Place, Devizes, Wilt.

HAILEHAM & DISTRICT EXPRESS-Fridays-10pence.

Lewes receive the biggest coverage, but also has a Sussex County League round-up featuring Newhaven, Ringmer, Seaford, Peacehaven, Hailsham and Cocksbridge. Has good results service for County League, Southern Counties Combination, East Sussex League, etc., but poor on fixtures. Published by Sussex Newspapers Ltd, High Street, Lewes.

CLUB FILE



FOCUS ON....

Pontllanfraith

Pontllanfraith, of the Abacus Welsh League, National Division, play at Islwyn Park, Pontllanfraith, near Blackwood, which is several miles north-east of Caerphilly. To reach Pontllanfraith, catch a bus from Cardiff. Bus No.26 (Cardiff-Tredager) stops in Pontllanfraith but the faster X26 stops only at Blackwood, some 20 minutes walk away. Fare is £1.65 return, journey time 1½ hours. Trains leave London's Paddington for the 145 mile journey to Cardiff at 10.00 and 11.00, arriving at 17.46 and 12.53 respectively. Coming back, trains leave Cardiff at 18.26 and 19.31, arriving back at Paddington at 20.26 and 21.34. Fare is £23.00 return with discounts for railcard holders.

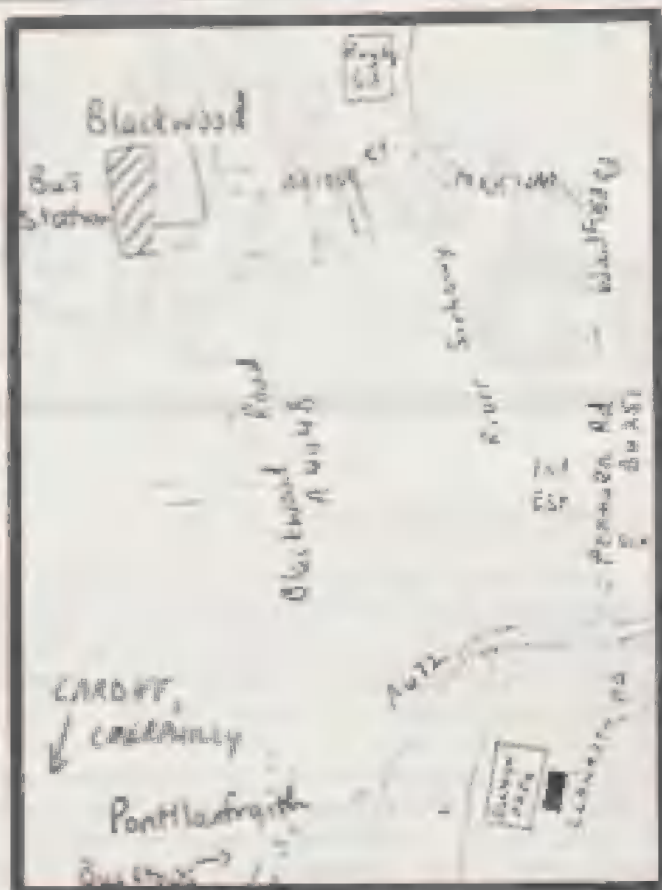
The ground at Islwyn Park is shared between the football, rugby and cricket clubs who all use the council owned facilities. The ground has a flat grassed standing room all round the pitch, with one large but rather old stand, seating approximately 500 spectators. When entering the ground, there is a car park directly in front, and a road that leads you to the cricket pavilion. This side of the ground from the car park is where you will see the stand, built from concrete, which has wooden planks but without any back rests. Under the stand, you will find a refreshment area serving the usual hot and cold drinks, etc. and next door are the dressing rooms. At present, there is not a Clubhouse at Pontllanfraith, although there may be one built in the near future. There is a fixed rail all around the pitch, and behind the goal you will see rugby posts! The cricket square is immediately behind this. There is a stream at the other end of the ground, and opposite the stand, you will see a small grass standing area for spectators with a river running behind.

Before 1964, the town's football teams were called Switch Gear FC. However, when the company of that name left the area, the present club was formed. Pontllanfraith then joined the Welsh League in 1972.

The ground generally is, as you would expect from a club of this size, quite small and basic, but to many of our groundhoppers, this is all part of the appeal of the hobby. Pontllanfraith do issue programmes for all home games (see next page) which is 30p. It has rather home-made feel to it with teams, club statistics and a league map all completed in manuscript.



The stand at Pontllanfraith FC.



Official Programme 30p

PONTLLANFRAITH
Association Football Club

PONTLLANFRAITH
W V V I

TON PENTRE
Saturday 14th November 1983
Kick Off 3.00pm

Islwyn Park,
Pontllanfraith

ABACUS
welsh football league

SEASON 1983-86

NATIONAL DIVISION

But at least they are making the effort to issue, which is more than can be said for some clubs. There are no floodlights at Islwyn Park.

At the time of writing, the club are having an average season, and are at present about sixth from bottom of the table.

Attendances are currently at around the 30 to 40 mark although they can manage up to 60 for some games.

The club play in Royal Blue and for further information on the club, write to the Secretary, Mr. D.F. Chipman, 26 Glanest Street, Cwmlinfach, Tyn-y-side, Newport, Gwent.

With no floodlights, there are very few games in midweek, so most games during the winter on a Saturday kick-off early at 2.00pm.

* Above information and photos, etc supplied by David Collins of Cardiff, with additional information supplied by Steve King.



Action from a match at Islwyn Park.

THE

TONY MGT

CAN I HAVE MY BALL BACK PLEASE

It is not often that the ball goes out the ground in a football League game, though when West Ham had the old Chicken Run it was quite common. Since the demise of this side of the ground, apart from Geoff Hurst once clearing the North Bank with a shot I cannot recall any other lost ball incident.

Outside the League it is all too regular. The ground was Leyton. The centre forward pounded down the pitch. Only the keeper to beat. He swung at the ball. It cleared the keeper, went over the bar, kept on going, over the netting at the back of Leyton's ground, and went crashing through a bathroom window. Half a minute later a somewhat irate person appeared at the shattered window, but surprisingly did not stay to watch the game, nor did he offer the ball back.

A visit to Highfield, now long gone, was always interesting. If the ball went out behind the far goal, there was a fast running river right behind, and the club official was armed with a fishing landing net. He had approximately thirty seconds to retrieve the ball, before it disappeared round the bend and towards the Thames. This happened six times when I was there, and he got it back every time, but only just.

Do you know which team have kicked the ball out of the ground the most times in a televised game. Yes, you are quite correct, it is Crook Town, who managed to clear the main stand at Ryeford six times during the televised Amateur Cup game in the early 50's. (Ryeford complained bitterly that they did not want TV coverage of this match, and afterwards were scathing in their criticism of the crowd, which was only 7,500. Two seasons earlier 17,000 had attended for a similar match.)

My favourite lost ball incident was not in fact a lost ball at all, as it came back. I was at Welling Utd., and their ground adjoins a main road. The shot cleared the bar with ease, and was sailing majestically upwards when it was headed back by a London double decker bus, which I am certain jumped two feet into the air to connect.

Lastly one match I went to had more lost balls than shots. I was recently at Clacton, where, in addition to having no programme and no covered accommodation, the two teams had no idea where the goal was either. Only four shots in the whole match, but the ball cleared the ground no fewer than nine times.

Any advance on mine?

CLACK- TON

COLUMN

A RAINY DAY IN JANUARY

The majority of non-league followers like to visit a ground new to them, and if there is a new programme at the end of it as well, so much the better. On the January day in question, my own team had no match so I had the choice of where to go. My intention was a new ground and a new programme. No real difficulty, plenty of choice. Or so I thought.

The rain was coming down in buckets, with the strong possibility of a postponement. I decided to make a shortish journey. First choice was Writtle. There was to be a pitch inspection but they were hopeful. I phoned back at 12, and yes it was on. Excellent ground, directions were given, and then the question, 'Is there a programme.' 'Yes' was the reply, but not today, we did not have time to get one done.

So Writtle could wait for a week or two. Next I tried Park Street (Herts. County), and the person who answered had no idea if a match was on. Wormley (same league), and after several attempts I gave up — no answer. 12.30 and time was against me. Clacton next. No answer. Eton Manor. No answer. I was beginning to wonder what was the point of having a phone. The rain had now reduced to a steady downpour, but time was rapidly approaching 13.00.

In desperation I phoned Haverhill. Yes the team had just left to go to Clacton and the match might be on. As a precaution I checked that Brightlingsea's game was on, and off I went, down a very waterlogged A12, to arrive at a windweat and rainweat Clacton just after 1400. Was the game on. Yes, sort of. The referee was inspecting the pitch now, and would make a decision shortly. By 1430 no decision, and it was too late to go anywhere else by now (Brightlingsea started at 1400), so I wait and hope.

At 1435 some club officials endeavour to stop the perimeter fence from blowing down in the gale, and at 1436 the match is on. What do I find — no programme. I should have gone to Writtle all along.

A. J. MORGAN
47 Victoria Road
Frinton
Suff.
RM17 9AJ

CONCORDIA

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

- 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

0-67-71002-9 \$18.95

- Discover • Make the Column • Plus all the
exciting news, features and advice

LIFE 3 NOVEMBER 1987

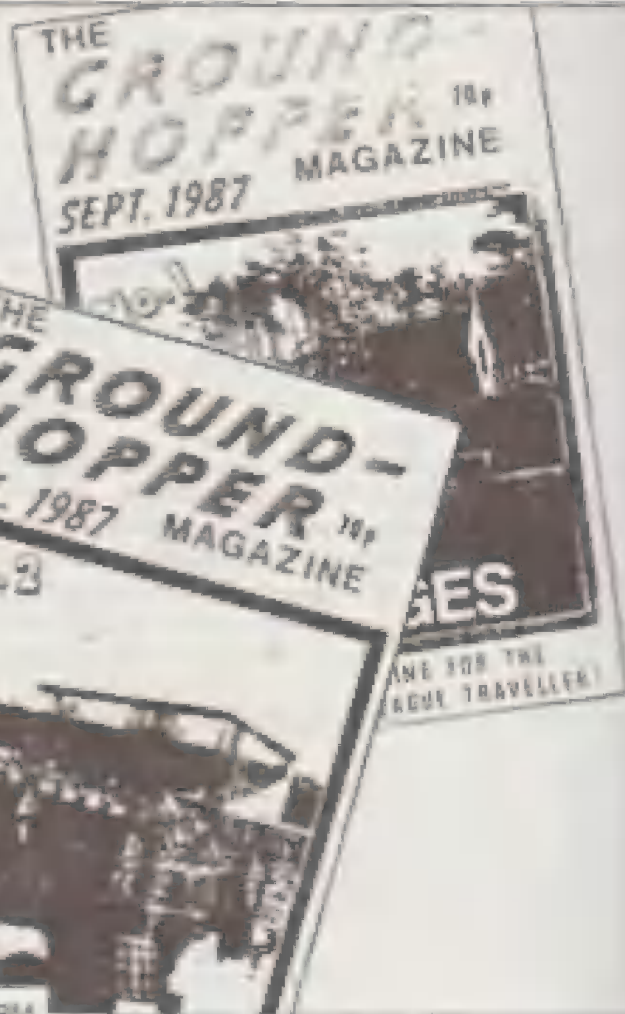
- **Business Development** ● **Programs Design** ● **Local Market**

图 1-1-1 图例

-

1992年 第 1 期 中国农村经济 1992年第1期

- Town and Town**



Please send the following back issues of GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE

| Issue No. | Capacity Required |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1 | Sold Out |
| 2 | Sold Out |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |



1. **Introduction** (10%)

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

附註：本報記者採訪

Acknowledgements

Send to: Back Issues Offer, Groundhopper Magazine,
#39 Merton Road, Wandsworth, London SW18 5LB

SPECIAL SOUVENIR FOUR - PAGE PULL-OUT FEATURING.....

BURY TOWN

Facts about the Club

BURY TOWN have been in existence since 1872, although they were re-formed in 1986 as Bury Town FC Ltd. They have a proud history, and perhaps their greatest moment of all came in the 1968-69 when reaching the 1st Round of the F.A. Cup, and managed a 0-0 draw at their old Kings Head before being knocked out in the replay. This game attracted a record attendance of 3,000 at the old ground. They are founder members of the Suffolk County FA (1885) and of the Eastern Counties League (1933). After several seasons in the Southern League, Bury Town reverted to their Eastern Counties League status until they gained entry this season in the Southern League Division One South. The record attendance at Ram Meadow is 2,500, and this was for the 4th Qualifying Round F.A. Cup tie with Enfield last season where Town lost 0-1 after a spirited 1-1 draw away. They were Eastern Counties League Champions in 1963-64, and runners-up in 1937-38. They have also won numerous county cup competitions including Suffolk Senior Cup honours on no less than five occasions. They have also been members of the Metropolitan League, and won it in 1968-69, and finishing runners-up in 1967-68. They are nicknamed 'The Blues' and club colours are sky & navy blue stripes, black shorts.

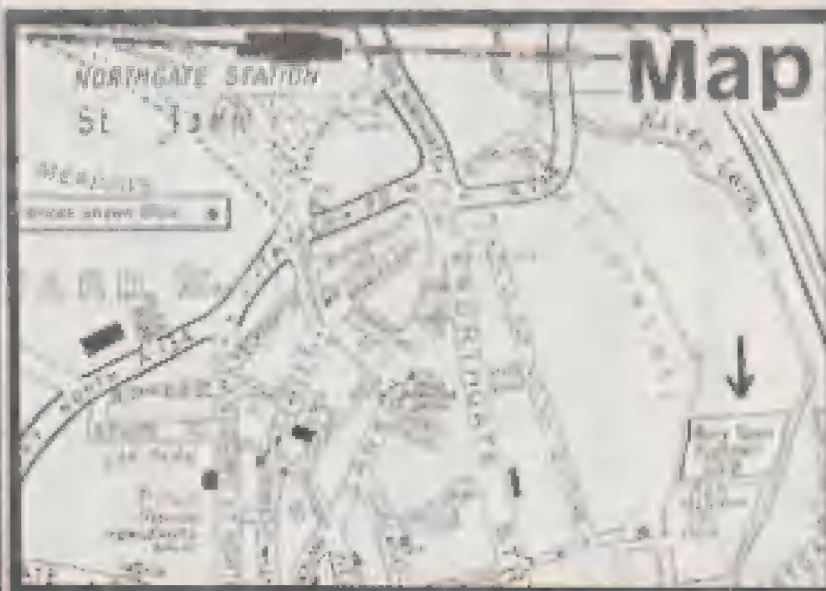
And ground

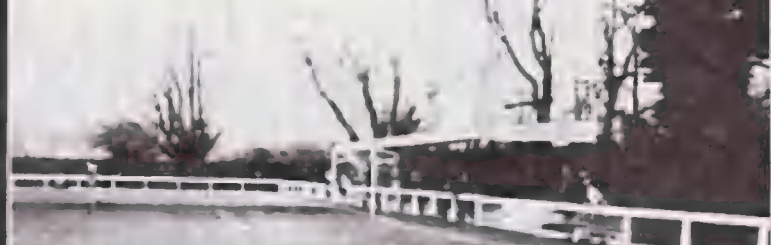
Ram Meadow is a small ground, with a capacity of only 3,000, but it is quite unusual in that there is cover on all four sides. It is in a rural setting with water on three sides and a car park on the fourth. The main stand can hold about 150 spectators, and there is also a small covered stand on the other side of the ground. Behind both goals, there is terracing which is covered, so on a wet day, you should be sure to remain dry while watching the game. On entering the ground from the car-park entrance, you will see the club offices and Clubhouse is front of you.

The Clubroom is quite spacious and you can purchase back copies of their current-season home programmes here, as they are all displayed on a rack near the bar.

There is a well-stocked tea-bar on the other side of the main stand, serving a wide selection of hot & cold drinks, snacks and confectionery. There are adequate toilet facilities, and the club have floodlights, where midweek matches are played usually on a Wednesday (7.30pm). There is a large coach & car park outside the ground. Admission to games costs £1.00.

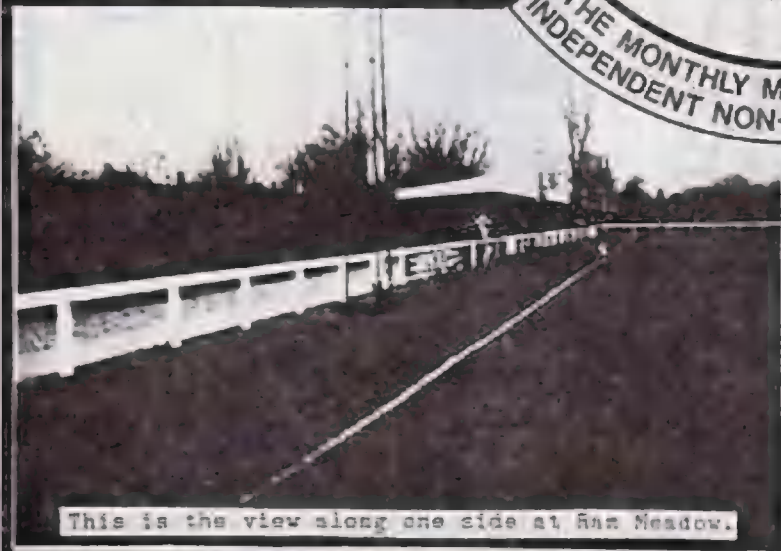
Map





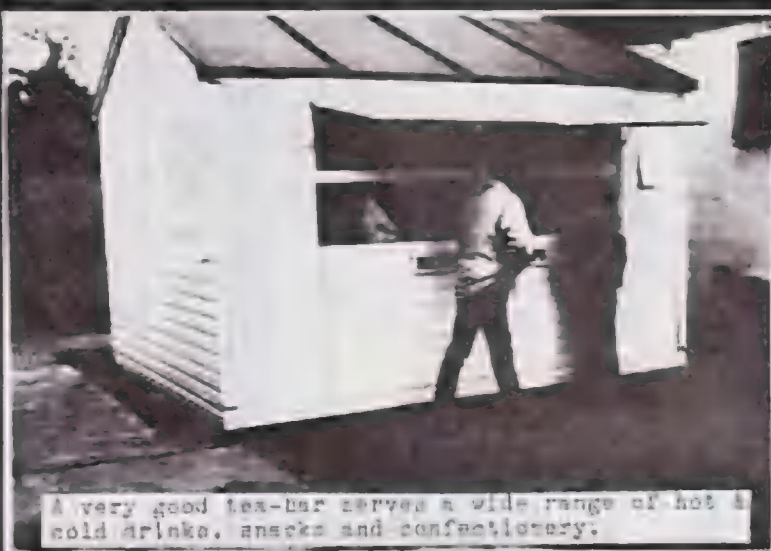
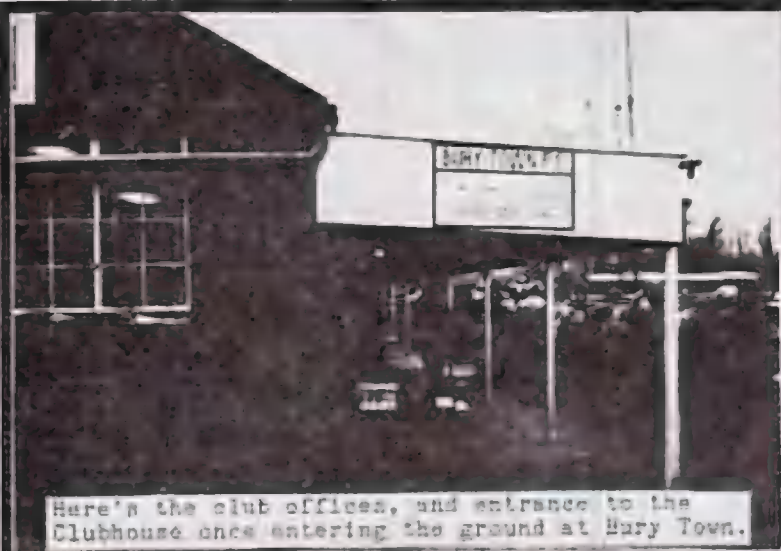
The area behind one of the goals at Ram Meadow.

And here's the other end at Bury Town's ground.



This is the view along one side at Ram Meadow.

The unusually-shaped stand is along the other side of the ground at Ram Meadow.



Here's the club offices, and entrance to the Clubhouse once entering the ground at Bury Town.

A very good tea-bar serves a wide range of hot & cold drinks, snacks and confectionery.



Action from a recent FA Vase tie at Bury Town.

Food & Drink

The Suffolk town of Bury St. Edmunds is very much a market town, and it has a very good, but busy shopping centre, about 5 minutes walk from the ground. Because of its size, there are far too many excellent pubs and restaurants to list here. It's just a case of finding one of many that suits you. The clubhouse inside the ground is recommended as it has a good range of local and national beers, and the tea-bar is also worth a visit. If you get to Bury early on a Saturday before a game, we recommend that you try one or two of the pubs in town, as they all have character typical of this part of the country. There are also B&B places as well as hotels in the area if staying here.

Ratings

* Poor ** Below Average
*** Average **** Good
***** Very Good
***** Excellent

PROGRAMME ***** CLUB SHOP n/a
HOSPITALITY ***** OVERALL IMPRESSION *****
CLUBHOUSE *****
TEA BAR *****
SEATING & COVERED ACCOMMODATION *****
PARKING FACILITIES *****

Travel

Leaving the Suffolk town of Bury St. Edmunds is easy by train, and it is 37 miles from London. Taking train Liverpool Street 10.15 and 11.35, arriving at Bury at 11.15 and 11.35, changing at Cambridge. Or take return coach, leaving Bury at 10.30 and 11.15, arriving back at 12.05 and 12.55 changing at Cambridge at Ipswich respectively. The fare is around £14.00 with discount for weekend holders. If travelling by car, leave the A14 by 2nd exit signed to Canton Bury St. Edmunds. Take 1st exit at the roundabout onto Southgate St. At 2nd traffic lights (T junction) turn left onto Market Street and left again into Lutter Lane.

Local rags

There are several local newspapers from the Bury St. Edmunds area that cover the local football team. These include THE BURY ST. EDMUNDS MERCURY, out on Fridays, and THE EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES which will give coverage of Bury Town plus a few other local area sides including match reports, previews and photos. THE BURY FREE PRESS is quite pricey at 26p, out on Fridays, but there are up to 34 pages, and the sports coverage is good including news and reports of Bury, Thetford and others.

BURY TOWN FC



Sat
Challenge Cup
SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER 1987
ATHERSTONE UNITED
KICK OFF 3 PM

Welcome to Ram Meadow
TEAM SPONSORS

25p



KENNING
TYRE SERVICES

The Proggie

The Bury Town programme costs 25p and contains 30 pages, all printed throughout on glossy paper. The front cover is in blue & white, and there is a different big photo on the cover of each issue, along with the match details such as opposition, date, etc. Although there are nearly 32 pages of info, it is still quite an interesting programme due to the variety of the news and the attractive cover. There's a page of line notes, player profiles, chart of results all the clubs in the league, centre page feature on the opposition, plus a very interesting "The Day I saw it" feature by a local reporter on non-league life and success, a page of statistics including the shirt numbers worn by players, a page often by league clubs in their programmes, tables, etc. and the team line-ups are on the back page. All in all, a good effort for a club of this size.

SHOP HOPPER

SHOP RATINGS GUIDE

- 1 = Worst
- 2 = Poor
- 3 = Average
- 4 = Good
- 5 = Very Good
- 6 = Excellent
- 10 = Out of this world!



* A MONTHLY REVIEW OF NON-LEAGUE CLUB SHOPS *

CAERNARFON TOWN : The shop is situated by the Secretary's Office a few yards inside the entrance to the ground. Once inside the shop, it is bright and spacious. There are no club-based souvenirs on sale (at the time of writing) and the programme selection is very poor. What there are of them are piled into two boxes in no particular order that also includes the current season stock (what little there is of it). It is a shame because the youngsters that run the shop try very hard with extremely limited resources. **RATING** : 4 out of 10.

BRUNLEY : This shop, one of the better ones in the Vauxhall-Opel League Premier, is like Caernarfon's, situated right by the turnstiles as you enter the ground. They have an excellent range of club-based souvenirs including jumpers, badges, sweatshirts, ties, scarves, key rings, also a small selection of other clubs badges. The programme selection is good. There is a fair selection of current season stock, albeit mainly Southern Area League and Non-League clubs. They also have a wider selection of older items and specials at reasonable prices. You can also purchase a small range of football mags including "Groundhopper" and "Non-League Bureau." **RATING** : 7 out of 10.

WITTON ALBION : This club has probably the best shop in the N.F.L. There are two of them. The programme shop has an excellent selection of programmes, both current and past, and the souvenir shop has a wide range of regalia, badges (own and other clubs), scarves, pennants, pens, tee-shirts, sweat-shirts, jumpers, and even club track-suits. The souvenir shop is on the top of the banking to the right of the main stand, whilst the programme shop is at the right-hand end of the covered terracing on the far side. The staff here could not be more helpful, a credit to the league. **RATING** : 9 out of 10.

BARROW : The shop, situated by the covered terracing at the squash court end of the ground, has an excellent line in club souvenirs such as badges (plastic insert variety), scarves, pennants, jumpers, ties, key fobs, pens, etc. but as for programmes, the selection is small. The current season selection apart from Barrow's home & away's is minimal and the general stuff (what there is of it) is strewn across a table in no particular order whatsoever and when people have finished browsing, the programmes are in a worse state than what they were in before. Apart from that, the service is generally very knowledgeable and helpful. **RATING** : 5 out of 10.

There will be more Club Shop reviews next month. If you visit a Club Shop at a Non-League ground and would like to review it for us, send it to our address on page 3 and we'll feature it. Don't forget to give your own personal rating out of 10 though.

A MONTH IN EU

With COLIN PEEL

The recent articles by Chris Ashbridge have illustrated the tremendous groundhopping opportunities open to people between the ages of 18 and 25 if they were to purchase an Inter-Rail ticket which gives you a month's rail travel over much of Europe. Apart from the beaten track of Scandinavia, Benelux and Northern Germany, the potential is there for some real pioneering hopping for the travel-mad football enthusiast. The extremes are Portugal, Morocco, Yugoslavia, Greece, European Turkey, and a couple of Warsaw Pact countries. The mind boggles at the tremendous scope provided by the Inter-Rail ticket - just take a look at the map of Europe. Think of the great names of European soccer - St Etienne, Benfica, Real Madrid, Juventus, Red Star Belgrade, Panathinaikos, Rapid Vienna, Bayern Munich - a myriad of spectacular stadia a train ride away.

My prise of Inter-Rail and its benefits for the young groundhopper stem from personal experience in August and September 1987. Being on vacation from University, I was able to spend six weeks working to finance the trip, and I even got some financial assistance from the University itself. I went with my girlfriend, so the trip was a combination of groundhopping and a more conventional holiday. This meant that I wasn't breaking my neck to get round as many grounds as possible. As for financial outlay, the trip cost around £450. £200 was spent on the ticket (£139), insurance and getting from Birmingham to France. The other £250 was spent on accommodation, food, and general spending. This sounds awfully cheap for a month, but we camped throughout, sometimes sleeping overnight on the train, and we ate basically but well. Compare this with Tony Middleton's £355 for a week (or two) in Holland by car.

Since this was my first sortie into Europe for groundhopping, I decided not to try anything too spectacular, and not to push myself. Over the course of the month, we travelled just over 4,500 miles (I reckon this is about 2,000 miles below the average distance covered by an Inter-Railer) in only four countries, visiting ten grounds on the way.

If this sounds modest to the point of being blasé, it is because I know

of people who have travelled far more extensively in Europe. At Wigan in May, I overheard a Swindon fan behaving saying to his mate, "There's a game at Lille on Saturday, are you coming?" I also know of a group of hoppers in the West Midlands with a special interest in East Germany and Czechoslovakia, so an average trip for them takes in clubs like Bohemians Prague and F.C. Karl Marx Stadt.



Paris S-G supporters set off flares and fireworks five minutes before kick-off.

RUE

Part 1



One of this group also goes to West Germany every year for the 'Bundesliga-Aufsteigerturnen', the play-offs between amateur sides to get into Division Two. He returns laden with programmes from obscure clubs like RSV Murges and SpVgg Erkenschwick. These men have my utmost admiration.

Anyway, leaving Birmingham on August 27th at 8am, we arrived in Paris (predictably) twelve hours later. The camp-site at Maisons-Laffitte is next door to a floodlit soccer pitch with a sizeable clubhouse and a superb rugby pitch next to that. First stop on Sat 29th Aug was the Parc des Princes Stadium, mentioned by Raymond Jarvie in Issue No.4 (it's not spelt Parc-de-France though!). By chance, the visitors were Bordeaux, which is Paris-St-Germain's match of the season. For this reason, the cheapest seat was £7, although I gather the usual cost of a seat is about £7. The cost is offset by the fact that programmes (24 glossy colour A4 pages) are free. This is a reliable venue for hoppers, since when PSG play away, Meira-Racing-Paris are at home. The stadium is superb for football watching, with a quadric shape and a continuous cantilever roof over the two-tier seating. The gate for the match, a home affair which PSG won 1-0, was only 30,000, possibly because Madonna was performing in Paris the same evening, and the game was also on TV. Try to avoid the -500 hooligan element, which congregates in the upper tier of the Tribune Boulogne. They are reputed to be the worst in French football, and they proved this before the kick-off with an impressive fireworks display. The flying seats and cigarette ends in the second-half weren't quite so impressive.

The following day, we transferred to Nantes and a superb campsite on the North of the town. On the Monday, we took a day trip to Laval via Le Mans to have a

look at the Stade Francis-le-Basser, which is less than a mile from the station. It is set in the sporting area of town, and is a more typical small European ground. What makes it distinctive is the Main Stand, unique in Europe. Futuristic is perhaps the best description - oddly shaped exterior, faced in white and looking very solid.

CONTINUED PAGE 51



Laval - Main Stand. A rear view of their highly unusual stand, the only distinctive feature of the Stade F.-le-Basser.

ISLE OF WIGHT

— * PART TWO * —

We continue our tour of the Isle of Wight football with the final part, and this time we see some photos of both COWES SPORTS FC and NEWPORT (FOW), and a details of COWES SPORTS' ground, and the conclusion to our Isle of Wight football tour, the final part concluded last month....

COWES SPORTS FC play in the Hampshire League Division Two, and their ground is called Westwood Park. Cowes also has another team, East Cowes Vice, and this famous yachting town is situated in the north of the island (see map below). In May last year, the Yachtmen of Cowes Sports are known, celebrated their 75th anniversary, and a special match was played between Cowes Sports and East Cowes Vice to celebrate this great achievement. A special souvenir programme was issued containing 32 pages and is full of excellent photographs of recent years as well as those of earlier years including some from the turn of the century. Also included in this souvenir programme was a complete history of the club and a complete statistical league record since it's formation. If you would like a copy which is excellent value for money, there are still some available from P. Jeffery, 12 Barton Close, Whippingham, Isle of Wight, PO12 6LS at £1 + an 20p stamped addressed envelope (9" x 6" minimum size). At present, there is not a Clubhouse at Westwood Park, but it is one of the club's top priorities, and the club are trying to get an F.A. loan to incorporate one under the main stand which also has to be upgraded under the new fire regulations. It is the only stand big enough on the island to come under these new regulations. Both the main stand and the smaller one on the opposite side of the pitch are wooden and in a pretty poor condition due to their age. Admission to Hampshire League Division 2 games at Westwood Park is just 40p for adults, 25p for children, pensioners and cars. Cowes Sports FC also has two other Saturday sides playing in the Isle of Wight league. On Sundays, their under-18 team plays in the Hampshire Youth League, the only island team in that league. It is their 4th season in that competition and despite the high travelling costs involved in participating, the Youth policy has been justified because seven of the current first-team have come up through from the Youth team.



COWES SPORTS FOOTBALL CLUB

40 STURGEON PARK, COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT
Telephone: 221122

At home: 1st XI, 2nd XI, 3rd XI, 4th XI, 5th XI, 6th XI, 7th XI, 8th XI, 9th XI, 10th XI, 11th XI, 12th XI, 13th XI, 14th XI, 15th XI, 16th XI, 17th XI, 18th XI, 19th XI, 20th XI, 21st XI, 22nd XI, 23rd XI, 24th XI, 25th XI, 26th XI, 27th XI, 28th XI, 29th XI, 30th XI, 31st XI, 32nd XI, 33rd XI, 34th XI, 35th XI, 36th XI, 37th XI, 38th XI, 39th XI, 40th XI, 41st XI, 42nd XI, 43rd XI, 44th XI, 45th XI, 46th XI, 47th XI, 48th XI, 49th XI, 50th XI, 51st XI, 52nd XI, 53rd XI, 54th XI, 55th XI, 56th XI, 57th XI, 58th XI, 59th XI, 60th XI, 61st XI, 62nd XI, 63rd XI, 64th XI, 65th XI, 66th XI, 67th XI, 68th XI, 69th XI, 70th XI, 71st XI, 72nd XI, 73rd XI, 74th XI, 75th XI, 76th XI, 77th XI, 78th XI, 79th XI, 80th XI, 81st XI, 82nd XI, 83rd XI, 84th XI, 85th XI, 86th XI, 87th XI, 88th XI, 89th XI, 90th XI, 91st XI, 92nd XI, 93rd XI, 94th XI, 95th XI, 96th XI, 97th XI, 98th XI, 99th XI, 100th XI, 101st XI, 102nd XI, 103rd XI, 104th XI, 105th XI, 106th XI, 107th XI, 108th XI, 109th XI, 110th XI, 111th XI, 112th XI, 113th XI, 114th XI, 115th XI, 116th XI, 117th XI, 118th XI, 119th XI, 120th XI, 121st XI, 122nd XI, 123rd XI, 124th XI, 125th XI, 126th XI, 127th XI, 128th XI, 129th XI, 130th XI, 131st XI, 132nd XI, 133rd XI, 134th XI, 135th XI, 136th XI, 137th XI, 138th XI, 139th XI, 140th XI, 141st XI, 142nd XI, 143rd XI, 144th XI, 145th XI, 146th XI, 147th XI, 148th XI, 149th XI, 150th XI, 151st XI, 152nd XI, 153rd XI, 154th XI, 155th XI, 156th XI, 157th XI, 158th XI, 159th XI, 160th XI, 161st XI, 162nd XI, 163rd XI, 164th XI, 165th XI, 166th XI, 167th XI, 168th XI, 169th XI, 170th XI, 171st XI, 172nd XI, 173rd XI, 174th XI, 175th XI, 176th XI, 177th XI, 178th XI, 179th XI, 180th XI, 181st XI, 182nd XI, 183rd XI, 184th XI, 185th XI, 186th XI, 187th XI, 188th XI, 189th XI, 190th XI, 191st XI, 192nd XI, 193rd XI, 194th XI, 195th XI, 196th XI, 197th XI, 198th XI, 199th XI, 200th XI, 201st XI, 202nd XI, 203rd XI, 204th XI, 205th XI, 206th XI, 207th XI, 208th XI, 209th XI, 210th XI, 211th XI, 212th XI, 213th XI, 214th XI, 215th XI, 216th XI, 217th XI, 218th XI, 219th XI, 220th XI, 221st XI, 222nd XI, 223rd XI, 224th XI, 225th XI, 226th XI, 227th XI, 228th XI, 229th XI, 230th XI, 231st XI, 232nd XI, 233rd XI, 234th XI, 235th XI, 236th XI, 237th XI, 238th XI, 239th XI, 240th XI, 241st XI, 242nd XI, 243rd XI, 244th XI, 245th XI, 246th XI, 247th XI, 248th XI, 249th XI, 250th XI, 251st XI, 252nd XI, 253rd XI, 254th XI, 255th XI, 256th XI, 257th XI, 258th XI, 259th XI, 260th XI, 261st XI, 262nd XI, 263rd XI, 264th XI, 265th XI, 266th XI, 267th XI, 268th XI, 269th XI, 270th XI, 271st XI, 272nd XI, 273rd XI, 274th XI, 275th XI, 276th XI, 277th XI, 278th XI, 279th XI, 280th XI, 281st XI, 282nd XI, 283rd XI, 284th XI, 285th XI, 286th XI, 287th XI, 288th XI, 289th XI, 290th XI, 291st XI, 292nd XI, 293rd XI, 294th XI, 295th XI, 296th XI, 297th XI, 298th XI, 299th XI, 300th XI, 301st XI, 302nd XI, 303rd XI, 304th XI, 305th XI, 306th XI, 307th XI, 308th XI, 309th XI, 310th XI, 311th XI, 312th XI, 313th XI, 314th XI, 315th XI, 316th XI, 317th XI, 318th XI, 319th XI, 320th XI, 321st XI, 322nd XI, 323rd XI, 324th XI, 325th XI, 326th XI, 327th XI, 328th XI, 329th XI, 330th XI, 331st XI, 332nd XI, 333rd XI, 334th XI, 335th XI, 336th XI, 337th XI, 338th XI, 339th XI, 340th XI, 341st XI, 342nd XI, 343rd XI, 344th XI, 345th XI, 346th XI, 347th XI, 348th XI, 349th XI, 350th XI, 351st XI, 352nd XI, 353rd XI, 354th XI, 355th XI, 356th XI, 357th XI, 358th XI, 359th XI, 360th XI, 361st XI, 362nd XI, 363rd XI, 364th XI, 365th XI, 366th XI, 367th XI, 368th XI, 369th XI, 370th XI, 371st XI, 372nd XI, 373rd XI, 374th XI, 375th XI, 376th XI, 377th XI, 378th XI, 379th XI, 380th XI, 381st XI, 382nd XI, 383rd XI, 384th XI, 385th XI, 386th XI, 387th XI, 388th XI, 389th XI, 390th XI, 391st XI, 392nd XI, 393rd XI, 394th XI, 395th XI, 396th XI, 397th XI, 398th XI, 399th XI, 400th XI, 401st XI, 402nd XI, 403rd XI, 404th XI, 405th XI, 406th XI, 407th XI, 408th XI, 409th XI, 410th XI, 411th XI, 412th XI, 413th XI, 414th XI, 415th XI, 416th XI, 417th XI, 418th XI, 419th XI, 420th XI, 421st XI, 422nd XI, 423rd XI, 424th XI, 425th XI, 426th XI, 427th XI, 428th XI, 429th XI, 430th XI, 431st XI, 432nd XI, 433rd XI, 434th XI, 435th XI, 436th XI, 437th XI, 438th XI, 439th XI, 440th XI, 441st XI, 442nd XI, 443rd XI, 444th XI, 445th XI, 446th XI, 447th XI, 448th XI, 449th XI, 450th XI, 451st XI, 452nd XI, 453rd XI, 454th XI, 455th XI, 456th XI, 457th XI, 458th XI, 459th XI, 460th XI, 461st XI, 462nd XI, 463rd XI, 464th XI, 465th XI, 466th XI, 467th XI, 468th XI, 469th XI, 470th XI, 471st XI, 472nd XI, 473rd XI, 474th XI, 475th XI, 476th XI, 477th XI, 478th XI, 479th XI, 480th XI, 481st XI, 482nd XI, 483rd XI, 484th XI, 485th XI, 486th XI, 487th XI, 488th XI, 489th XI, 490th XI, 491st XI, 492nd XI, 493rd XI, 494th XI, 495th XI, 496th XI, 497th XI, 498th XI, 499th XI, 500th XI, 501st XI, 502nd XI, 503rd XI, 504th XI, 505th XI, 506th XI, 507th XI, 508th XI, 509th XI, 510th XI, 511th XI, 512th XI, 513th XI, 514th XI, 515th XI, 516th XI, 517th XI, 518th XI, 519th XI, 520th XI, 521st XI, 522nd XI, 523rd XI, 524th XI, 525th XI, 526th XI, 527th XI, 528th XI, 529th XI, 530th XI, 531st XI, 532nd XI, 533rd XI, 534th XI, 535th XI, 536th XI, 537th XI, 538th XI, 539th XI, 540th XI, 541st XI, 542nd XI, 543rd XI, 544th XI, 545th XI, 546th XI, 547th XI, 548th XI, 549th XI, 550th XI, 551st XI, 552nd XI, 553rd XI, 554th XI, 555th XI, 556th XI, 557th XI, 558th XI, 559th XI, 560th XI, 561st XI, 562nd XI, 563rd XI, 564th XI, 565th XI, 566th XI, 567th XI, 568th XI, 569th XI, 570th XI, 571st XI, 572nd XI, 573rd XI, 574th XI, 575th XI, 576th XI, 577th XI, 578th XI, 579th XI, 580th XI, 581st XI, 582nd XI, 583rd XI, 584th XI, 585th XI, 586th XI, 587th XI, 588th XI, 589th XI, 590th XI, 591st XI, 592nd XI, 593rd XI, 594th XI, 595th XI, 596th XI, 597th XI, 598th XI, 599th XI, 600th XI, 601st XI, 602nd XI, 603rd XI, 604th XI, 605th XI, 606th XI, 607th XI, 608th XI, 609th XI, 610th XI, 611th XI, 612th XI, 613th XI, 614th XI, 615th XI, 616th XI, 617th XI, 618th XI, 619th XI, 620th XI, 621st XI, 622nd XI, 623rd XI, 624th XI, 625th XI, 626th XI, 627th XI, 628th XI, 629th XI, 630th XI, 631st XI, 632nd XI, 633rd XI, 634th XI, 635th XI, 636th XI, 637th XI, 638th XI, 639th XI, 640th XI, 641st XI, 642nd XI, 643rd XI, 644th XI, 645th XI, 646th XI, 647th XI, 648th XI, 649th XI, 650th XI, 651st XI, 652nd XI, 653rd XI, 654th XI, 655th XI, 656th XI, 657th XI, 658th XI, 659th XI, 660th XI, 661st XI, 662nd XI, 663rd XI, 664th XI, 665th XI, 666th XI, 667th XI, 668th XI, 669th XI, 670th XI, 671st XI, 672nd XI, 673rd XI, 674th XI, 675th XI, 676th XI, 677th XI, 678th XI, 679th XI, 680th XI, 681st XI, 682nd XI, 683rd XI, 684th XI, 685th XI, 686th XI, 687th XI, 688th XI, 689th XI, 690th XI, 691st XI, 692nd XI, 693rd XI, 694th XI, 695th XI, 696th XI, 697th XI, 698th XI, 699th XI, 700th XI, 701st XI, 702nd XI, 703rd XI, 704th XI, 705th XI, 706th XI, 707th XI, 708th XI, 709th XI, 710th XI, 711th XI, 712th XI, 713th XI, 714th XI, 715th XI, 716th XI, 717th XI, 718th XI, 719th XI, 720th XI, 721st XI, 722nd XI, 723rd XI, 724th XI, 725th XI, 726th XI, 727th XI, 728th XI, 729th XI, 730th XI, 731st XI, 732nd XI, 733rd XI, 734th XI, 735th XI, 736th XI, 737th XI, 738th XI, 739th XI, 740th XI, 741st XI, 742nd XI, 743rd XI, 744th XI, 745th XI, 746th XI, 747th XI, 748th XI, 749th XI, 750th XI, 751st XI, 752nd XI, 753rd XI, 754th XI, 755th XI, 756th XI, 757th XI, 758th XI, 759th XI, 760th XI, 761st XI, 762nd XI, 763rd XI, 764th XI, 765th XI, 766th XI, 767th XI, 768th XI, 769th XI, 770th XI, 771st XI, 772nd XI, 773rd XI, 774th XI, 775th XI, 776th XI, 777th XI, 778th XI, 779th XI, 780th XI, 781st XI, 782nd XI, 783rd XI, 784th XI, 785th XI, 786th XI, 787th XI, 788th XI, 789th XI, 790th XI, 791st XI, 792nd XI, 793rd XI, 794th XI, 795th XI, 796th XI, 797th XI, 798th XI, 799th XI, 800th XI, 801st XI, 802nd XI, 803rd XI, 804th XI, 805th XI, 806th XI, 807th XI, 808th XI, 809th XI, 810th XI, 811th XI, 812th XI, 813th XI, 814th XI, 815th XI, 816th XI, 817th XI, 818th XI, 819th XI, 820th XI, 821st XI, 822nd XI, 823rd XI, 824th XI, 825th XI, 826th XI, 827th XI, 828th XI, 829th XI, 830th XI, 831st XI, 832nd XI, 833rd XI, 834th XI, 835th XI, 836th XI, 837th XI, 838th XI, 839th XI, 840th XI, 841st XI, 842nd XI, 843rd XI, 844th XI, 845th XI, 846th XI, 847th XI, 848th XI, 849th XI, 850th XI, 851st XI, 852nd XI, 853rd XI, 854th XI, 855th XI, 856th XI, 857th XI, 858th XI, 859th XI, 860th XI, 861st XI, 862nd XI, 863rd XI, 864th XI, 865th XI, 866th XI, 867th XI, 868th XI, 869th XI, 870th XI, 871st XI, 872nd XI, 873rd XI, 874th XI, 875th XI, 876th XI, 877th XI, 878th XI, 879th XI, 880th XI, 881st XI, 882nd XI, 883rd XI, 884th XI, 885th XI, 886th XI, 887th XI, 888th XI, 889th XI, 890th XI, 891st XI, 892nd XI, 893rd XI, 894th XI, 895th XI, 896th XI, 897th XI, 898th XI, 899th XI, 900th XI, 901st XI, 902nd XI, 903rd XI, 904th XI, 905th XI, 906th XI, 907th XI, 908th XI, 909th XI, 910th XI, 911th XI, 912th XI, 913th XI, 914th XI, 915th XI, 916th XI, 917th XI, 918th XI, 919th XI, 920th XI, 921st XI, 922nd XI, 923rd XI, 924th XI, 925th XI, 926th XI, 927th XI, 928th XI, 929th XI, 930th XI, 931st XI, 932nd XI, 933rd XI, 934th XI, 935th XI, 936th XI, 937th XI, 938th XI, 939th XI, 940th XI, 941st XI, 942nd XI, 943rd XI, 944th XI, 945th XI, 946th XI, 947th XI, 948th XI, 949th XI, 950th XI, 951st XI, 952nd XI, 953rd XI, 954th XI, 955th XI, 956th XI, 957th XI, 958th XI, 959th XI, 960th XI, 961st XI, 962nd XI, 963rd XI, 964th XI, 965th XI, 966th XI, 967th XI, 968th XI, 969th XI, 970th XI, 971st XI, 972nd XI, 973rd XI, 974th XI, 975th XI, 976th XI, 977th XI, 978th XI, 979th XI, 980th XI, 981st XI, 982nd XI, 983rd XI, 984th XI, 985th XI, 986th XI, 987th XI, 988th XI, 989th XI, 990th XI, 991st XI, 992nd XI, 993rd XI, 994th XI, 995th XI, 996th XI, 997th XI, 998th XI, 999th XI, 1000th XI, 1001st XI, 1002nd XI, 1003rd XI, 1004th XI, 1005th XI, 1006th XI, 1007th XI, 1008th XI, 1009th XI, 1010th XI, 1011th XI, 1012th XI, 1013th XI, 1014th XI, 1015th XI, 1016th XI, 1017th XI, 1018th XI, 1019th XI, 1020th XI, 1021st XI, 1022nd XI, 1023rd XI, 1024th XI, 1025th XI, 1026th XI, 1027th XI, 1028th XI, 1029th XI, 1030th XI, 1031st XI, 1032nd XI, 1033rd XI, 1034th XI, 1035th XI, 1036th XI, 1037th XI, 1038th XI, 1039th XI, 1040th XI, 1041st XI, 1042nd XI, 1043rd XI, 1044th XI, 1045th XI, 1046th XI, 1047th XI, 1048th XI, 1049th XI, 1050th XI, 1051st XI, 1052nd XI, 1053rd XI, 1054th XI, 1055th XI, 1056th XI, 1057th XI, 1058th XI, 1059th XI, 1060th XI, 1061st XI, 1062nd XI, 1063rd XI, 1064th XI, 1065th XI, 1066th XI, 1067th XI, 1068th XI, 1069th XI, 1070th XI, 1071st XI, 1072nd XI, 1073rd XI, 1074th XI, 1075th XI, 1076th XI, 1077th XI, 1078th XI, 1079th XI, 1080th XI, 1081st XI, 1082nd XI, 1083rd XI, 1084th XI, 1085th XI, 1086th XI, 1087th XI, 1088th XI, 1089th XI, 1090th XI, 1091st XI, 1092nd XI, 1093rd XI, 1094th XI, 1095th XI, 1096th XI, 1097th XI, 1098th XI, 1099th XI, 1100th XI, 1101st XI, 1102nd XI, 1103rd XI, 1104th XI, 1105th XI, 1106th XI, 1107th XI, 1108th XI, 1109th XI, 1110th XI, 1111th XI, 1112th XI, 1113th XI, 1114th XI, 1115th XI, 1116th XI, 1117th XI, 1118th XI, 1119th XI, 1120th XI, 1121st XI, 1122nd XI, 1123rd XI, 1124th XI, 1125th XI, 1126th XI, 1127th XI, 1128th XI, 1129th XI, 1130th XI, 1131st XI, 1132nd XI, 1133rd XI, 1134th XI, 1135th XI, 1136th XI, 1137th XI, 1138th XI, 1139th XI, 1140th XI, 1141st XI, 1142nd XI, 1143rd XI, 1144th XI, 1145th XI, 1146th XI, 1147th XI, 1148th XI, 1149th XI, 1150th XI, 1151st XI, 1152nd XI, 1153rd XI, 1154th XI, 1155th XI, 1156th XI, 1157th XI, 1158th XI, 1159th XI, 1160th XI, 1161st XI, 1162nd XI, 1163rd XI, 1164th XI, 1165th XI, 1166th XI, 1167th XI, 1168th XI, 1169th XI, 1170th XI, 1171st XI, 1172nd XI, 1173rd XI, 1174th XI, 1175th XI, 1176th XI, 1177th XI, 1178th XI, 1179th XI, 1180th XI, 1181st XI, 1182nd XI, 1183rd XI, 1184th XI, 1185th XI, 1186th XI, 1187th XI, 1188th XI, 1189th XI, 1190th XI, 1191st XI, 1192nd XI, 1193rd XI, 1194th XI, 1195th XI, 1196th XI, 1197th XI, 1198th XI, 1199th XI, 1200th XI, 1201st XI, 1202nd XI, 1203rd XI, 1204th XI, 1205th XI, 1206th XI, 1207th XI, 1208th XI, 1209th XI, 1210th XI, 1211th XI, 1212th XI, 1213th XI, 1214th XI, 1215th XI, 1216th XI, 1217th XI, 1218th XI, 1219th XI, 1220th XI, 1221st XI, 1222nd XI, 1223rd XI, 1224th XI, 1225th XI, 1226th XI, 1227th XI, 1228th XI, 1229th XI, 1230th XI, 1231st XI, 1232nd XI, 1233rd XI, 1234th XI, 1235th XI, 1236th XI, 1237th XI, 1238th XI, 1239th XI, 1240th XI, 1241st XI, 1242nd XI, 1243rd XI, 1244th XI, 1245th XI, 1246th XI, 1247th XI, 1248th XI, 1249th XI, 1250th XI, 1251st XI, 1252nd XI, 1253rd XI, 1254th XI, 1255th XI, 1256th XI, 1257th XI, 1258th XI, 1259th XI, 1260th XI, 1261st XI, 1262nd XI, 1263rd XI, 1264th XI, 1265th XI, 1266th XI, 1267th XI, 1268th XI, 1269th XI, 1270th XI, 1271st XI, 1272nd XI, 1273rd XI, 1274th XI, 1275th XI, 1276th XI, 1277th XI, 1278th XI, 1279th XI, 1280th XI, 1281st XI, 1282nd XI, 1283rd XI, 1284th XI, 1285th XI, 1286th XI, 1287th XI, 1288th XI, 1289th XI, 1290th XI, 1291st XI, 1292nd XI, 1293rd XI, 1294th XI, 1295th XI, 1296th XI, 1297th XI, 1298th XI, 1299th XI, 1300th XI, 1301st XI, 1302nd XI, 1303rd XI, 1304th XI, 1305th XI, 1306th XI, 1307th XI, 1308th XI, 1309th XI, 1310th XI, 1311th XI, 1312th XI, 1313th XI, 1314th XI, 1315th XI, 1316th XI, 1317th XI, 1318th XI, 1319th XI, 1320th XI, 1321st XI, 1322nd XI, 1323rd XI, 1324th XI, 1325th XI, 1326th XI, 1327th XI, 1328th XI, 1329th XI, 1330th XI, 1331st XI, 1332nd XI, 1333rd XI, 1334th XI, 1335th XI, 1336th XI, 1337th XI, 1338th XI, 1339th XI, 1340th XI, 1341st XI, 1342nd XI, 1343rd XI, 1344th XI, 1345th XI, 1346th XI, 1347th XI, 1348th XI, 1349th XI, 1350th XI, 1351st XI, 1352nd XI, 1353rd XI, 1354th XI, 1355th XI, 1356th XI, 1357th XI, 1358th XI, 1359th XI, 1360th XI, 1361st XI, 1362nd XI, 1363rd XI, 1364th XI, 1365th XI, 1366th XI, 1367th XI, 1368th XI, 1369th XI, 1370th XI, 1371st XI, 1372nd XI, 1373rd XI, 1374th XI, 1375th XI, 1376th XI, 1377th XI, 1378th XI, 1379th XI, 1380th XI, 1381st XI, 1382nd XI, 1383rd XI, 1384th XI, 1385th XI, 1386th XI, 1387th XI, 1388th XI, 1389th XI, 1390th XI, 1391st XI, 1392nd XI, 1393rd XI, 1394th XI, 1395th XI, 1396th XI, 1397th XI, 1398th XI, 1399th XI, 1400th XI, 1401st XI, 1402nd XI, 1403rd XI, 1404th XI, 1405th XI, 1406th XI, 1407th XI, 1408th XI, 1409th XI, 1410th XI, 1411th XI, 1412th XI, 1413th XI, 1414th XI, 1415th XI, 1416th XI, 1417th XI, 1418th XI, 1419th XI, 1420th XI, 1421st XI, 1422nd XI, 1423rd XI, 1424th XI, 1425th XI, 1426th XI, 1427th XI, 1428th XI, 1429th XI, 1430th XI, 1431st XI, 1432nd XI, 1433rd XI, 1434th XI, 1435th XI, 1436th XI, 1437th XI, 1438th XI, 1439th XI, 1440th XI, 1441st XI, 1442nd XI, 1443rd XI, 1444th XI, 1445th XI, 1446th XI, 1447th XI, 1448th XI, 1449th XI, 1450th XI, 1451st XI, 1452nd XI, 1453rd XI, 1454th XI, 1455th XI, 1456th XI, 1457th XI, 1458th XI, 1459th XI, 1460th XI, 1461st XI, 1462nd XI, 1463rd XI, 1464th XI, 1465th XI, 1466th XI, 1467th XI, 1468th XI, 1469th XI, 1470th XI, 1471st XI, 1472nd XI, 1473rd XI, 1474th XI, 1475th XI, 1476th XI, 1477th XI, 1478th XI, 1479th XI, 1480th XI, 1481st XI, 1482nd XI, 1483rd XI, 1484th XI, 1485th XI, 1486th XI, 1487th XI, 1488th XI, 1489th XI, 1490th XI, 1491st XI, 1492nd XI, 1493rd XI, 1494th XI, 1495th XI, 1496th XI, 1497th XI, 1498th XI, 1499th XI, 1500th XI, 1501st XI, 1502nd XI, 1503rd XI, 1504th XI, 1505th XI, 1506th XI, 1507th XI, 1508th XI, 1509th XI, 1510th XI, 1511th XI, 1512th XI, 1513th XI, 1514th XI, 1515th XI, 1516th XI, 1517th XI, 1518th XI, 1519th XI, 1520th XI, 1521st XI, 1522nd XI, 1523rd XI, 1524th XI, 1525th XI, 1526th XI, 1527th XI, 1528th XI, 1529th XI, 1530th XI, 1531st XI, 1532nd XI, 1533rd XI, 1534th XI, 1535th XI, 1536th XI, 1537th XI, 1538th XI, 1539th XI, 1540th XI, 1541st XI, 1542nd XI, 1543rd XI, 1544th XI, 1545th XI, 1546th XI, 1547th XI, 1548th XI, 1549th XI, 1550th XI, 1551st XI, 1552nd XI, 1553rd XI, 1554th XI, 1555th XI, 1556th XI, 1557th XI, 1558th XI, 1559th XI, 1560th XI, 1561st XI, 1562nd XI, 1563rd XI, 1564th XI, 1565th XI, 1566th XI, 1567th XI, 1568th XI, 1569th XI, 1570th XI, 1571st XI, 1572nd XI, 1573rd XI, 1574th XI, 1575th XI, 1576th XI, 1577th XI, 1578th XI, 1579th XI, 1580th XI, 1581st XI, 1582nd XI, 15

T FOOTBALL



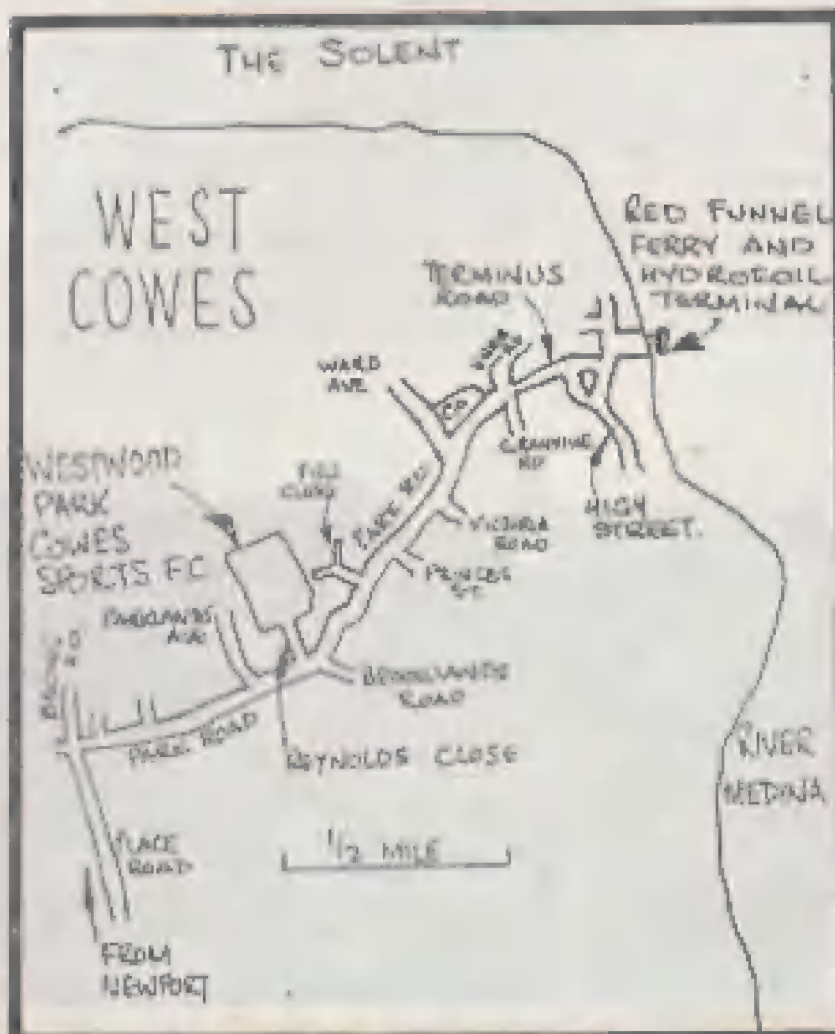
THE YACHTSMEN

Johnnyboy Toby Callard does a very good job producing the matchday programme and there are issued on a regular basis. The cover has a distinctive blue cover and the Cowes Sports badge. Travelling on

the Isle of Wight is quite good, but obviously during the warmer months it can get quite busy with holiday crowds. Buses, although on the dear side, do get you from A to B fairly quickly, and because of the very limited train service only covering a small fraction of the island, you are better off using buses or hiring a car if there for any length of time. Buses out of Ryde go to most parts of the island, including Brading, where Town play their games. It is quite a basic ground, and a visit to the famous Warworks Museum beforehand can pass the time, and it is quite good. The island, especially in the main holiday resorts such as Sandown, Shanklin and Ventnor, have plenty of places to stay, and there are pubs, restaurants and nightlife in all these places. If going by ferry from Portsmouth to Ryde, the journey time over will take about 1 hour or so, and is usually included in the →



Action from a recent match at Cowes Sports FC.
Photo supplied by Cowes Sports FC.





The area behind one of the goals at Newport FC.
Photo supplied by Brian Chaplin.

price of your train ticket when you apply on the mainland. For the 79½ mile trip from London. For instance, a cheap day return from Waterloo to Hyde would cost around £15.00, with a 50% discount for railcard holder. For Saturday games on the Island, there are trains from Waterloo at 9.25 (arrive Portsmouth at 11.09), 09.55

(11.25), 10.25 (12.09) or 10.55 (12.25) with connecting ferry services to Hyde for passengers at 11.45, 12.45 and 13.45. Ferries leave Hyde afterwards at various times, but it is best to check out all the times of the trains and connecting ferries with the booking agent when purchasing the tickets as times may vary according to time of year, etc. You can also go to Southampton and get a ferry or Hydrofoil service to Cowes if you wish to see games on this part of the Island.

A trip to the Isle of Wight is particularly pleasant in early or late season for football, and also for strolling through the quaint villages and coastal resorts when the weather is good. And with teams involved in the Isle of Wight League, Wessex or Hampshire League, there is a variety of standards and styles to choose from when watching football here.

Whether you plan a visit to the busy capital of Newport in the centre of the Island or to the windy town of Cowes in the north or to Yarmouth right over on the west coast, you'll enjoy your trip to the Isle of Wight. And if we've managed to whet your appetite for popping over to watch some League football

all the better. Later on in the year, we hope to update this feature and bring you details and some photos of some of the smaller clubs playing on the Island, with everything you need to know when getting off for the Isle of Wight. And if any of our readers would like to send in such information for inclusion, please drop us a line and we'll feature it.



The main stand at Wentwood Park.
Photo supplied by Cowes Sports FC.

ISLE OF WIGHT CLUB DIRECTORY : If you would like to visit any of the clubs on the Island, here is part two of our useful guide to some of the clubs, with names and addresses of secretaries, so that you can write to them in advance for information, such as confirmation of match, programme availability, kick-off times, opposition, etc.

LATEWAY : A Higgins, Co-op Flat, John Street, Ryde, IOW, PO33 2PY.
HAWKING BILLY : R Hogg, 17 Eastwood Close, Hayling Island, Hants.
HORTSMORE F.C. : M G Skidwell, 11 Clarence Road, Newport, IOW, PO33 1EA.

ISLE OF WIGHT POLICE : D D Murray, 1 Greenfield Road, Newport, IOW.

ISLE OF WIGHT POLICE SUPPORTER : A P Cook, 5 West Road, Ryde, IOW.

PO33 2PY.

ISLE OF WIGHT SOCIETY OF ASSOCIATION REFEREES : M L Turley, 18 Sylvia Drive, Newport, IOW, PO33 2JN.

NEBINA : R Dudley, 14 New Close, Ventnor, IOW, PO33 1BA.

NEIGO : A J Paul, 9 Greenham Drive, Seaview, IOW, PO33 5LA.

NEWMURCH : Rex V Donovan, 63 Forest Road, Winton, IOW, PO33 0J2.

NEWMPORT : E R Chevalton, 19 Oakwood Road, Ryde, IOW, PO33 1J7.

NEWMPORT BUZZARDS : T Lott, Flat 2, Lynington Court, Union Street, Newport, IOW, PO33 1QB.

NITON : A Small, 66 Gilla Cliff Road, Ventnor, IOW, PO33 1AD.

NORADS XI : A B Cooke, 29 Fishbourne Lane, Ryde, IOW, PO33 4E2.

NORTHWOOD ST. JOHNS : D J Glynn, 47 Pelham Road, Cowes, IOW, PO33 7UK.

NORTHWOOD UNITED (IOW) : M E Moody, 20 Lower Church Road, Northwood, Gurnard, Cowes, IOW, PO33 4JG.

OXFIELD : A Cook, 20 Cross Street, Oxfild, Ryde, IOW, PO33 1EH.

OSBORNE ELECTRONICS : D R Mottram, 1 Cokerella Road, Haylands, Ryde, IOW, PO33 1HS.

OSBORNE COBURG : Rex S Eland, 5 Lodgeside, East Cowes, IOW, PO32 6ER.

PAINTERS F.C. : Rex J Knight, 31 Victoria Road, Cowes, IOW, PO33 7JN.

PAN (SATURDAY) : F Hayward, 28 Downs View Road, Pan Estate, Newport, IOW.

PAN (SUNDAY) : R G Haywood, 112 Placen Road, Cowes, IOW, PO33 7AE.

PLESSER (COWES) : A H Fay, 100 Nyctia Lane, Northwood, IOW, PO33 8PY.

PLESSER SUNDAY : A H Fay, 100 Nyctia Lane, Northwood, Cowes, IOW, PO33 8PY.

RE MONARCHS : A McManus, 78 Whitelil Lane, Newport, IOW, PO33 1AT.

ROORLEY : A K Russell, Springfield, Rookley Green, Ventnor, IOW, PO33 1BY.

RYDE COUNTY OLD BOYS : T Whelan, 12 Beechcroft Drive, Weston, Ryde, IOW, PO33 4NB.

RYDE SPORTS : E T Huxal, 12 St. John's Wood Road, Ryde, IOW, PO33 1AP.

RYDE UNITED : W Humphreys, Garden Flat, Lind Street, Ryde, IOW.

SANDOWN : R Hutchins, 20 The Meadows, Lakes, Sandown, IOW, PO33 9MG.

SHANKLIN : R B Hogg, Kim-
 besley Hotel,
 29 Milton Park
 Road, Shank-
 lin, IOW,
 PO33 7BU.

BEST WIGHT :
 V A King, 4
 Southview
 Cottages,
 Chale Green,
 Ventnor, IOW,
 PO33 2JW.

* Our thanks
 go to Cowes
 Sports FC
 Secretary
 Pete Jeffery
 for informa-
 tion supplied
 in our IOW
 feature, and
 for maps and
 photos supplied.



The ground at Newport Football Club.
 Photo by Brian Chaplin.

BADGERS SET

WITH TOBY JACKSON

With 1988 now well under way it seems an appropriate time to take a quick trip around the country and see what is new in the way of enamel lapel badges. I shall confine myself to enamel lapel badges as the cheap plastic insert-type badges found at several clubs are only a poor substitute for the real thing and not worthy of promotion!

As it is not practical for me to write to every club in the country each month to discover whether any new badges have been issued I am dependant upon you, Groundhopper readers, to let me know about any badges you come across on your travels. It has been encouraging to receive as many letters following on from my monthly reviews of badges League by League and I hope that the trend will continue so that I can keep our readers up to date with news in the Badge world.

So, let us get moving and take a look around at what is new. We shall start in the GM Vauxhall Conference where the main news is the long-awaited arrival of Fisher Athletic's new badge which I personally feel is quite a work of art and should prove a popular seller at Salter Road. The badge in black and white enamel features the club crest and motto "nulli secundus". Macclesfield Town promptly put me straight after my Conference badge review pointing out that they now had a badge on offer to supporters. The badge in blue and white enamel has obviously sold well as I have been unable to replenish my own stocks. At London Road I have a new badge in the course of production for Maidstone United which will be in black and amber with the club crest prominent. The badge should be out at the end of March or start of April. My new production for Northwich Victoria was recently dispatched to the Drill Field and was very well received. It sees a complete change from the green "V" badge previously stocked, the new issue highlighting a rampant eagle on a white enamel background. At the Park View Ground Welling United have a new badge on offer, larger than their last enamel issue and at the time of writing eagerly awaited through yours truly's letter-box!

In the Vauxhall-Opel, Hayes have a new badge at their Club Shop which I have not as yet seen but which will be dropping onto my door-mat shortly. At the end of 1987 I produced similar shaped badges for both Hendon and Woking, being small shield badges with scrolls beneath. Collier Row also opted for a badge of this type for their latest issue which came out in December. Just recently commissioned is a new badge for Basildon United who decided they wished their club name to appear rather than just initials as on their last badge. The new badge should be ready at the end of April. In red and blue enamel comes the new issue from Horsham FC where Ian Handa has got to grips with organising a Club Shop. At Clarence Park St. Albans City have brought out a large blue enamel badge with their familiar yellow cross emblem. Mitchin Town have overcome the problem of the missing dye for their distinctive canary badge and a new batch have been produced with different feather markings and larger initials "MTFC".

Nothing new in the Beazer Women's League although I am in the course of producing a new badge for Gosport Borough as outlined in last month's

Groundhopper. The badge should be out around the same time as Maidstone's above. Varying rumours surround the production of Sutton Coldfield Town's new badge, which has been advertised for several months in the Football Programme Advertiser but which has apparently not yet been completed. Any news, Paul Vane?

One new badge in the Building Scene Eastern League can be found at Braintree Town who now have a very smart badge in yellow and blue enamel featuring a factory, a floodlight pylon and the nickname "The Iron".

In the Great Mills League problems arose with Liskeard Athletic's new badge which unfortunately omitted the "Athletic" part of the club name. Production was therefore put back to square one and a further period must be allowed before the new badge is ready. My new badge for Mangotsfield United came out at Christmas in maroon and sky blue enamel, commissioned by Ron Loftus at the Club who used to be a supporter of Romford FC prior to their demise. Hot off the press also is the new badge for Devizes Town in red and white enamel on a gilt base in a small shield design.

The only new issue in the Bank's Brewery West Midlands League is that to be found at the Lamb Ground where Tamworth have a souvenir well worthy of their excellent F.A. Cup run.

In the Northern Premier, Gateshead have a new badge in red and blue enamel combining features seen in their last two badges. Rhyl have brought out a gilt badge in blue and white enamel recently; the "Lilywhite" badge should sell well at Belle Vue. A new badge is in course, rumour has it, at Seel Park for Mossley FC also. Lastly, there was a new issue for Eastwood Town towards the end of 1987 that will go down well with animal lovers! In white enamel it looks to me like a badger's head featured; perhaps it should be adopted for this column too.

In the Northern Counties East League there are badges newly available from Harrogate Railway Athletic and Mexborough Town with a further production hopefully to follow from Ossett Albion in due course so I am told. In the Welsh League Cwmbran Town are to be commended for their recent issue which I trust will go down well in the valleys!

So much for our look at new badges around the country. These are all featured on my latest badge lists among some 140 Non-League club badges. Lists can be obtained by SAE to me at 25 Tulip Court, Nursery Road, Pinner, Middlesex. HA5 2AP as can details of my badge production services. Next month I intend to look in detail at the badges of the Northern Premier League; until then enjoy your football and keep a look out for those collection items around the country!

photos in....



THE
**GROUND-
HOPPER**
MAGAZINE

Whilst we very much encourage and welcome photographs of Non-League grounds and action for inclusion in the magazine, we strongly recommend that if you require your photos back, that you only send us a maximum of about 6 at a time. This is because the process used to get them suitable for publishing called "screening", is extremely expensive, and therefore, we can only prepare those that we are to use for the following issue. Therefore, there may be considerable delay in returning large numbers of photos if they are used later on.

CLUB FILE

THE **GROUND-HOPPER** MAGAZINE

FOCUS ON....

Cambridge C.

Several Non-League clubs have moved to 'new' grounds in recent seasons, but Cambridge City are unusual in having developed a new home on part of the site of their old stadium at Milton Road.

The ground is about two miles from the station, but there are buses from the station into the City centre, which is worth a visit if you have time to spare. There are numerous pubs, restaurants and cafes in the city, and a few pubs closer to the ground, but those who like to arrive early at the ground may like to note that there is no Clubhouse as such at Milton Road, but a Restaurant and Private

members club which seems to be run separately from the football club and is not open before the match.

Once inside the ground, admission to the stand is free, which is just as well as there is no cover for spectators. The stand is built above the club offices, dressing rooms, etc. so offers quite a good view of the action. There is hard standing on the other three sides, but no banking or terracing, and spectators behind the goals are very close to the action, unlike the old ground, with its greyhound track. The capacity is stated as 3,400, including 400 seats, but with no terracing at all, it is difficult to imagine how more than 2,000 at the most could get a view of the match. The programme is in black and white throughout, and

has eight pages inserted in the static 12 page cover, including adverts. A couple of pages of news are supplemented by the usual pen-pictures and statistics. No price is shown on the cover, but a copy will cost you 30p on the day. Cambridge City have no Club Shop, and there are no signs of one opening in the near future. There is a tea-bar inside the ground, with burgers and hot dogs available. The ground entrance is just off Milton Road, and you should follow the sign advertising the City Restaurant, and just around the corner is the Car Park, which tends to get very muddy in wet weather.

If you wish to receive more information from the club, come of games and enquiries, you should phone the club on Cambridge 157971.

The former Non-League Premier Division club used to attract big crowds in the 1940's and 1950's. In fact, at one time, they were a much bigger club than their neighbours Cambridge United, who, of course, went on to become members of the Football League, and indeed had a brief spell as high as Division Two. At one time, it was very rare for City to attract crowds of less than 3,000.

Nowadays, they are lucky if they get 100 or 200 to their home games, and this is an indication of how far City have slumped in recent years. In 1950, over 12,000 packed into the



to see an FA Amateur Cup 3rd Round tie against Leytonstone! The club gained promotion to the Premier Division two seasons ago after winning the Southern Division (South), and their other notable honour is to win the Southern League championship in 1962-63.

The local newspapers include the Cambridge Evening News which gives coverage of both Cambridge City and United including match previews, photos and reports. Cambridge is 56 miles from London, and trains leave Liverpool Street at 10.35, 11.35 and 12.35 and 13.35, arriving an hour later, with the return trains leaving Cambridge at 17.05 or 18.05, also a one-hour journey, though you will need a taxi to be certain of making the earlier train. There is a taxi office outside the ground. Once you have arrived at Cambridge station, go along Station Road, turn right into Hills Road, and then along Regent Street, St. Andrew's Street and Sidney Street. Go on into Bridge Street and over the River Cam, right into Chesterton Lane, then on into Chesterton Road. Follow the one-way signs and left onto the A10. There are

plenty of pubs etc in Chesterton, as mentioned above, but highly recommended in Thompson Lane is the Spade & Bucket, a Tolly Bedford pub, also serving lunchtime and evening meals.

Wednesday is Cambridge's usual midweek day for some matches, and suitable trains leave Liverpool Street at 16.35, 17.35 and 17.55, arriving at 17.35, 18.37 and 18.45 with the return at 21.55, arriving back at Liverpool Street at 23.23. Services are also available to Peterborough and Norwich.

To summarise, although the ground at Milton Road is fairly basic and lacking in the usual clubhouse and shop to be found at most clubs at this level, a visit here is particularly interesting for anyone who watched a match at the 'old' ground, and along the far side from the entrance. It will surely bring back some memories, and at the same time will drill home to you just how much it has all changed since those 'great' days of years gone by.

Incidentally, getting back to the point about local newspapers, apart from the Cambridge Evening News, which doesn't have a sports edition any more sadly, The Cambridge Weekly News (12p) has no sports coverage at all, while the Cambridgeshire Times and March Advertiser only covers March and Chatteris Town.

If you would like to phone the Secretary instead of the club for news of matches and information, etc, please contact Peter Woolston at Cambridge 014632.

The decline of Cambridge City is indeed a sad story, and with United also struggling as well, this university city with hundreds of things to see and do is without a successful football team, but maybe one day great days will be had again, and whether they are at the Abbey Stadium or Milton Road remains to be seen.

* Above information supplied by Ken Jones.

C
A
M
B
R
I
D
G
E

C
I
T
Y



**PETER
BOROUGH
League**

FOOTBALL LEAGUE

F.C.



CITY GROUND
MILTON ROAD

OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME

15 APRIL 1981-82



MY MONTH

We begin this new series with an article by TREVOR DILL of *Groundhopper* in Devon who writes about his groundhopping adventures during the month of December 1987. And remember... You don't have to write about a recent month. We'd still like to hear from you if you have had a useful groundhopping month from the past. *Groundhopper* is yours.

Each month, we invite readers to write in with diary of their groundhopping adventures and experiences during a typical month. If you would like to contribute to the usual magazine address, enclosing photos of grounds whenever possible.

Although December 1987 was a relatively low key month in terms of our mileage - saving up for Christmas being a necessary priority - it nevertheless provided an interesting clutch of new grounds and one cliff-hanger story that only fellow groundhoppers will truly appreciate.

5-12-87 : CULLOMPTON RANGERS v. CLYST VALLEY (Devon & Exeter League Premier Division). Easily visible from the M5, Cullompton's Speeds Meadow ground is reasonably basic - fenced but with no cover or seating. Fenced cinema standing elsewhere. The small but comfortable Social Club's bar was open after the match with teas and snacks also available there at half-time. An adjoining full-size pitch has training lights and there is a large car park outside the ground. Bonus for me was the 12-page programme printed on glossy paper with red and blue (club colours) being prominent on the front cover. I naturally grabbed a few of these! Score: 3-1 Att: 40.
12-12-87 : BASHLEY v. DORKING (FA Vase 3rd Round). Joined up with Rob Davidson to visit his local club and had a thoroughly enjoyable day. It's always interesting to visit village clubs with the vision and ability to progress and Bashley FC is certainly an excellent example. The best of luck to all concerned. Score: 1-0 Att: 300. (By the way, I can confirm that a visit to "The Speckled Trout", New Milton is definitely worthwhile! Having treated my wife Pam to her Christmas Theatre present the night before ("Pollies" - a message for someone here?), we drove down to Eastbourne on the Saturday morning to visit the shops (groceries) and Eastbourne Town (hurray!). Having parked outside the ground, I wandered back with the shopping while Pam sought a hair appointment. Inside the Saffrons, I met the Eastbourne players arriving and was asked if I'd come for the match. Silly question, I thought. "Of course" I said. "It's off!" I was told. "A thousand curses!" I responded. It appeared that Horsham YMCA had been struck down with a 'flu virus and could not raise a side. "You can watch us train if you like" offered an Eastbourne player helpfully. Pausing only to leave an explanatory note in the car, I grabbed a taxi and made for Langney Sports anticipating that despite this slight hiccup all would be well in the end. Reassured by the number of cars parked at Langney I dashed into the Social Club. "Is the match on?" I enquired. "No, the ground's waterlogged. Are you the ref?". Deciding not to continue this conversation, I returned to the taxi having wisely put it on hold. "Plan C" I announced. I think the most irritating aspect of the journey to Seaford was the taxi driver's enthusiastic observance of the Highway Code and willingness to point out and describe various local landmarks. However, he did get us there after a brief stop to revise my notes to Pam - and all was well in the end! Excellent hospitality at Seaford Town who defeated East Grinstead 2-1 before a crowd of 40 in Division 2 of the Sussex County League. First-rate programme and organisation. Good to see this club making progress again. It appears that despite storm damage, which meant the loss of the stand, the Council will be providing an improved structure in 1988.

26-12-87 : STICKER v. ST. DENNIS (East Cornwall Premier League). A morning kick-off here. A few clubs in this league print programmes, but Sticker is not one of them. The club is based at Ennis Farm, St. Stephen Road. The ground is owned by the farmer and dressing-room facilities are located within the farm buildings. Players and officials then walk across a field to reach the ground. The slightly sloping pitch is fenced. On one side there is a small section of rather dilapidated covered stands.

NON-LEAGUE

PROGRAMME
REVIEW

WITH
RON JONES

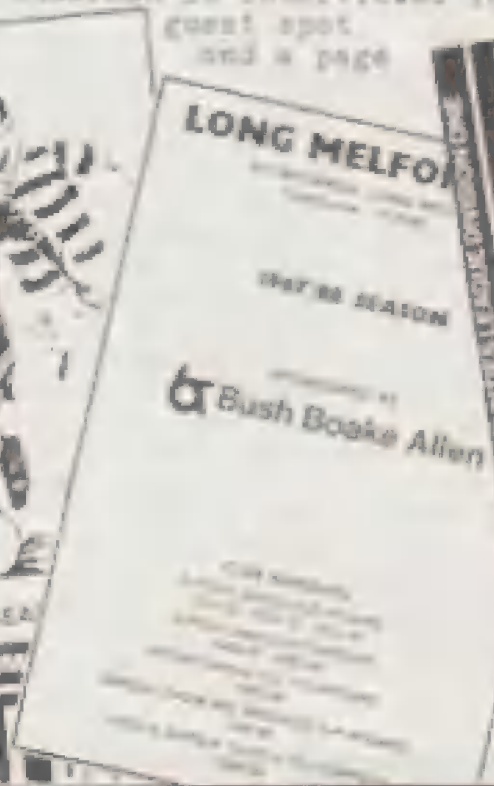


BRAINTREE DOWN are again producing a very good programme this season, with up to 16 pages (about 16 or 18 ads) for 25p. The cover is blue and yellow, with match details and a different photo for each team, while the content varies from 100 to 1200, apart from the Editorial, match page, visitors' coverage and league tables which appear every time. Detailed match

reports, reserves news, player profiles and club shop news are included in most editions, as are photos, with some old and humorous ones included as well as match action. Quizzes, League news, and one-off features such as local press and radio coverage as well as results and statistics are also included from time to time, with the line-ups on the back page. BRAINTREE'S Reserves visited BRAMPTON C.F.C. in the Essex & Suffolk Border League the Saturday before Christmas, and an eight-page photocopied programme was issued, with a list of club officials on the inside cover and a few lines from the Secretary and Manager on the next page. Appearances and a team photo occupy the centre pages, with the content completed by League Tables, Club History, a few lines on Braintree and back-page line-ups. But, was it issued by the home club or produced for them as a one-off?

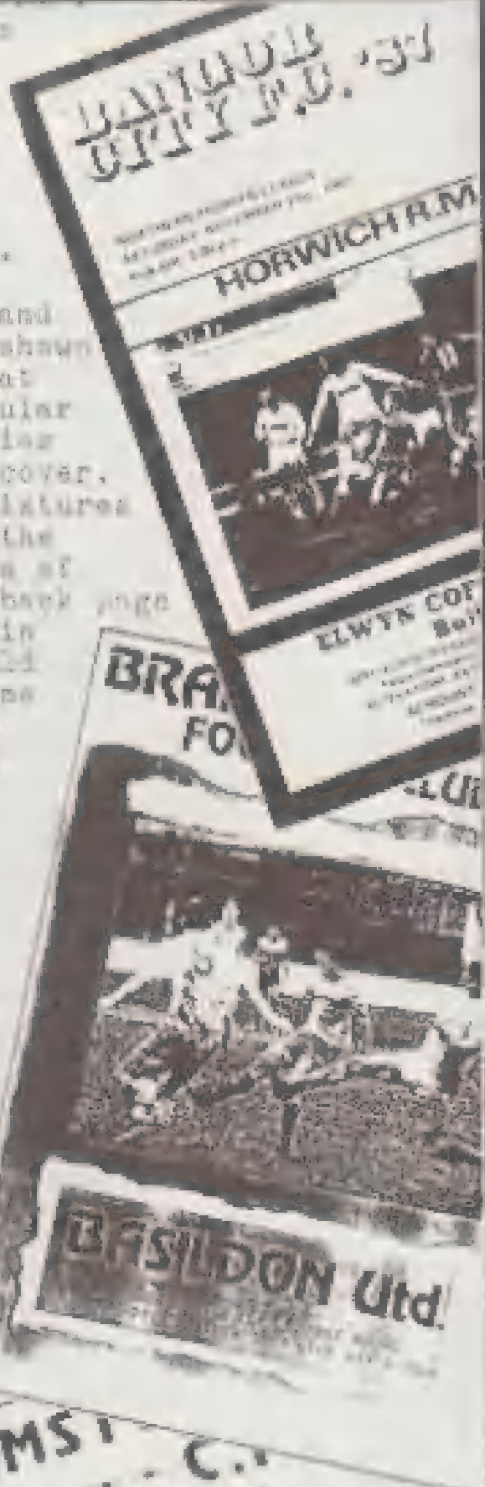
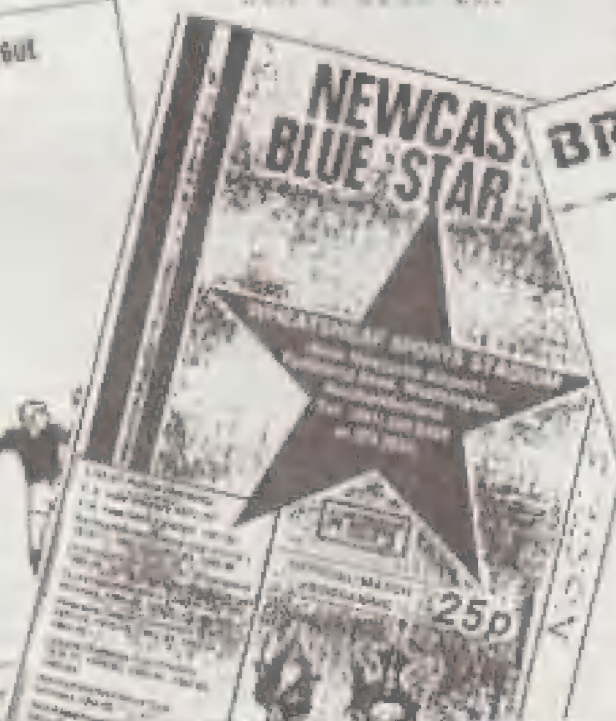
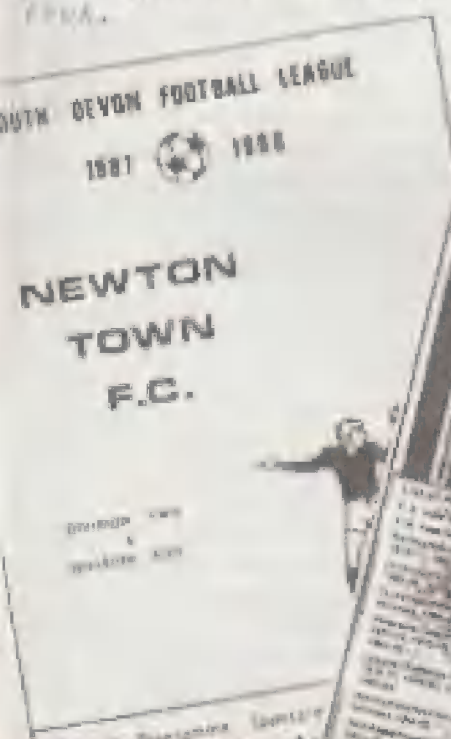
In the same league a week earlier, LONG MELFORD also entertained the Braintree second string, and their printed black on white cover (ads on the other three sides) contained a single A5 sheet with just the date, teams, and a very brief welcome photocopied on one side. Very basic, but a welcome's item with a proper cover, and a regular issue. Moving north, NEWCASTLE BLUE STAR have a blue and gold cover to their 28-page issue, the cover being cut short to show the day's opponents on page three. There's plenty of written content inside, with just over three pages on the visitors including club history and a page on the visitor's manager.

The Northern League Chairman is interviewed in the guest spot and a page



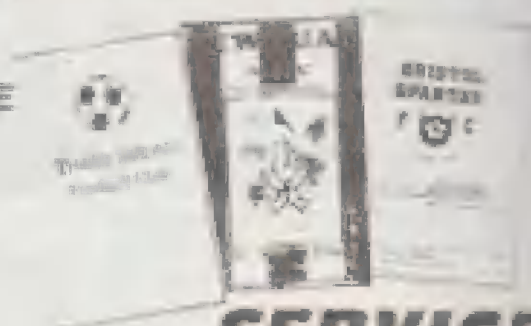
of league news follows, while the written content is completed by editorial, club history and quiz. Statistics, player profile, and a photo complete an issue with plenty of reading, and only 2 pages of ads. Price 25p. In the South Devon League, **NEWTON TOWN** issue a regular 20-pager, with 8 pages for each game inside the standard cover and ads. This includes a page of notes, results and fixtures, with match details and line-up on the centre pages, while fund-raising activities such as Jumble Sales and even a meat draw are also mentioned. No price is shown on the cover of a club in an area of the country that sees many clubs from lesser known leagues issue regular programmes. **LEYLAND MOTORS** of the North West Counties League issue a 16-pager with a glossy blue & white cover. Priced at only 10p, it contains news, forthcoming fixtures and statistics, line-ups in the centre pages, plus the League's own newsletter reprinted, and match reports of two previous games involving the club. The inside back page gives a complete list of the club's fixtures. All in all, quite good value for only 10p, although it could be improved and a higher price charged. From the same league, **BURSCOUGH** issue a distinctive 28-page issue with a green and black photocopied cover containing a team photo etc. The line-ups here are on page 3, and there are a massive 19 pages of adverts. But there is a whole page on the opposition, match reports, club news, tables, results from their league for that week, a page of forthcoming games involving Burscough, and the season's results so far. At 20p, it is not bad value, and although there are far too many adverts, it does make a good addition to one's own personal collection. **NEWS!** **HANGOR CITY** are showing their 'new' title 'Bangor City FC '87' on their programme cover from 21.11.87... **BEDFONT** of the Den-Air League and Sussex County Leaguers **LEFTOVER SPORTS** are not issuing at present.

COMING NEXT MONTH: A new-style 'programme review' giving even more news, reviews and information. Yes, this column will have a completely new look. Don't miss it!



Keep those programme orders coming in. We have some more great new programmes that have just arrived, and these are listed below. And keep watching for more great bargains throughout the season. Before you order your programmes, please read the notes below carefully. Send your order to:-

THE GROUND- HOPPER MAGAZINE



RON JONES, GROUNDHOPPER PROGRAMMES, 24 POPLAR ROAD, WIMBLEDON, LONDON, SW19 3JR.

SERVICE

1. Please add 70p to your order at the following rates - 1 programme 20p, 2-3 programmes 25p, 4-5 programmes 30p, 6-7 programmes 35p, 8-9 programmes 40p, 10-12 programmes 45p, 13-15 programmes 50p, 16-18 programmes 55p, 19-21 programmes 60p. Our maximum charge for postage is £1. We will pay any excess above this amount. Please state on your order whether you want your programmes sent 1st or 2nd class. If possible, please pay by cheque, leaving the amount blank, though enclosed not to exceed £...., this amount from your total order - postage. This will help us avoid mistakes etc should any item be out of stock. We will, of course, advise you of the amount completed on your cheque. We also accept postal orders & stamps. A credit note will be sent to you on refunds, etc. if you do not send an enclosed cheque. Please make all cheques p.p.s payable to "GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE".
2. Please send a self-addressed label if possible.
3. Programmes will be despatched within 48 hours of receiving your order.
4. All programmes ordered from us carry a 7 DAY BACK GUARANTEE.

ANHYSTWYTH TN v. Brecon, Blaenrhondda, Cardiff Corries (Welsh Int. Cup) 20p. ALTRINCHAM v. Kidderminster 40p. ANDOVER v. Tonbridge 25p. ATHERTON T.F.C. v. St. Helens 20p. AYLESBURY UTD v. Aylesbury, Buckingham (WCC), Kettering (FAT), Northampton (FR), Bedford (FAC), Wycombe (FAC) 35p. BANGOR CITY v. Buxton, Marine (FAC), Oswestry, St. H. Liverpool, Southport 40p. BANGOR CITY '87 v. Barrow, Norwich, Penrith (LC) Workson 40p. BASKIN v. Kingstons, Woking (ACDC) 30p. BARNET v. Northwich, Stafford 30p. BASILDON v. Lewes, Weasley 25p. BASINGSTOKE TN v. Carshalton 25p. BELFIE TOWN v. Denaby Utd 25p. BENZHAMSTED TN v. Barkingdale (FAV), Hovel Hempstead (FAC) 20p. BILLESLEY TN v. Marlow 25p. BISHOPS CROFTON v. Kingstons, Leytonstone 30p. BIRMINGHAM v. Egham (ACDC), Slough 30p. BUCKINGHAM TN v. Forest Green, Grantham 20p. BURY TOWN v. Esherstone (FAV), Chatham, Corinthian, Erith, Letchworth (FAC), Norwich Sea (FR), Sheppey 25p. CANTERBURY CITY v. Hastings, Poole, Ruislip, Sheppey (WIC) 20p. CAERNARFON TN v. Marine (FMS, CUP), Morecambe (LC), Southport (CMAC) 25p. CAMBRIDGE CITY v. Boreham 30p. CARSHALTON ATH v. Dulwich, Hitchin, Leatherhead (ACDC) 30p. CHELMSFORD CITY v. Ashford 30p. CHELTENHAM TN v. Wealdstone, Wycombe 50p. CHICHESTER CITY v. Midhurst 25p. CLAPTON v. Vauxhall Motors 25p. CROYDON v. Hitchin 30p. DAGENHAM v. Boston Utd 40p. DARTFORD v. Bedworth, Bosport, Nuneaton 30p. DUNSTABLE v. Chatham 25p. ENFIELD v. Dagenham, Fisher, Kidderminster, Stafford 50p. ERITH & BELVEDERE v. Burnham (WIC), Ruislip 30p. EXMOUTH TOWN v. Saltsan 25p. FELTHAM v. Molesey 30p. FISCHLEY v. Hornchurch, Witham (ACDC) 20p. FISHER ATH v. Boston Utd, Runcorn 40p. FOLKESTONE v. Corinthian 25p. GATESHEAD v. Corby (FAT) 30p. GLoucester City v. Halesowen 30p. GOSPORT BOROUGH v. Shephard, Yeovil (FA) 35p. GREAT SHELFORD v. Witham (FAV) 25p. HALESOWEN TN v. Oldwinsford (BHAM SC) 25p. HAMPTON v. Hasilton 30p. HARROGATE TN v. Alfreton 30p. HAYES v. Farnborough, QPR (FR) 35p. HEMEL HEMPSTEAD v. Ely (FAC) 35p. HENDON v. Carshalton, Hertford (FAC) 30p. HINCKLEY ATH v. Halesowen Harrtars 25p. HOUNSLOW v. Poole 30p. KETTERING TN v. Boston, Cheltenham 40p. MACCLESFIELD TN v. Sutton Utd 40p. MAIDSTONE UTD v. Wealdstone, Weymouth (CMAC) 50p. MORECAMBE v. Oswestry 30p. MOOR GREEN v. Halesowen (WIC) 30p. NORTH SHIELDS v. Billingham 25p. NUNEATON v. Bedworth 35p. OXFORD CITY v. Grays 30p. PENCAITLAND v. Easthouses (LC), Gals (LC) 20p.

MIDLANDS DIARY

By Alan Pott of Redditch.

Full of turkey, mince pie, and vodka, I managed to winch myself out of the armchair on Boxing Day and wade out to the car, to begin my long and hazardous trek to Blakenall Football Club, all of nine miles from home. For the purists, a mid-morning match at this footballing outpost is a daunting prospect, but I wasn't in the mood to feel either pure or daunted. Having driven past Blakenall's diminutive ground on numerous occasions in the past, the ground offered little in the way of a surprise for me. No again, a rusting shelter behind one goal, and a sloping pitch, and that was Blakenall. One thing that did surprise me was the size of the crowd there, as I had been given to understand that Blakenall were one of those clubs who took more a gate of 20 as a good payday. These four times that season watched the home side lock horns with Harrisons in a real rough and tuck-in local derby. The hosts lost their goalkeeper, their right winger, and the match, by two goals to one.

Holiday Monday saw me feeling fit (and fat) enough to attempt two matches. Off I went to Redditch United, for their morning match with local rivals Fromegrove Rovers. Now, I had been led to believe that United's ground wasn't up to much, but I must confess that I was pleasantly surprised on this, my first visit. The ground is by no means exceptional, but does offer the discerning spectator a decent elevated view of the match from at least two sides. Fromegrove deservedly won 3 - 1, which meant that the Redditch record of not having won a league match at home all season was safe for at least another week or two.

I sadly underestimated the distance from Redditch to Oswestry, which was my planned viewing for the afternoon. By the time I had recovered my trusty steed away from the Redditch area and through Fromegrove, I was left with just eighty minutes to reach the Welsh border town via Kidderminster, Bridgnorth, Much Wenlock, and Shrewsbury. A distance of about sixty miles, as I recall. Paying homage to Noel Coward's famous song, I went like a bat of hell, and managed it with two minutes to spare, leaving behind me a trail of cursing motorists, and a couple of black tyre marks on the roundabout just outside Oswestry. Mustering a gut to get there did at least prove worthwhile, as Exeter rapped in four goals and conceded just one in a match which was always interesting to watch. I may well return to Victoria Road before the season's end, as it has a certain higgledy-piggledy charm which will easily win townfolk developers' bulldozers this coming summer. If you haven't managed a trip there yet, it's well worth the effort, particularly as Oswestry may not be able to boast a senior football club next year owing to unforeseen legal problems with the new ground the club had intended occupying.

On New Years Day I again took the cowards way out and went local, this time to Harrisons. I thought I had seen the last of the Christmas turkey, but unfortunately there were twenty two of them on the pitch, and from the way they were all playing I knew there was little chance of seeing either team get stuffed. Halesowen Harriers won by one scrambled goal to nil in a match I've done my best to forget.

The following afternoon I gained ample compensation as I watched a fine Leek Town side defeat Stalybridge Celtic by 2 - 0 at Hamill Park. The pitch was an absolute mud bath, an all credit to both sides for this very good match. I always enjoy my visits to the Peak District, and will undoubtedly return to Hamill Park before too long. It's another ground which offers nothing exceptional in the way of spectator facilities, but has about it an air of charm and expectancy which I found quite infectious. I particularly enjoyed my half hour stay atop the miniature cliff behind the far goal, which was ended only by a sudden squall. One word of warning, if you're planning a trip to Leek Town and you also enjoy meat and potato pie at half time:- take a straw!



Don-Air League action at Boreley Town with the visitors Farnham Town on the attack. Farnham won 1-0 (19.12.87). Photo: D R West.



Action from Bromley's 2-0 home win over local rivals Croydon in a V.G.L. Premier game at Hayes Lane (26.12.87). Photo: D R West.



P.A. Vase action from the Marathas v. Charlton game at Albury Road. Photo: Nick Robinson.



A tense moment in the Lancing v. Kestbourne match at a sunny Culver Road earlier this season. Photo: Nick Robinson.

continental CLUB FILE



FOCUS ON...

K.V. Oostende

THIS is the first of a new type of 'Club File' article, which will appear once every few months, or perhaps more frequently if the initial response from readers is encouraging. As trips to the continent can be expensive, I will be starting this series by covering the more accessible clubs like K.V. Oostende, members of the Belgian 3rd Division. The club was formed only about eight years ago as a result of a merger between A.S. Oostende and K.V.O. Oostende. A.S. Oostende were in the 1st Division as recently as 1976-77, but when they were relegated, declining fortunes meant that they decided to merge with K.V.O. in about 1980. However, the new club has spent most of it's short history in Division 3. Getting to the ground is simple as I have not included a map. On arrival at the ferry terminal, walk to the adjacent railway station where you will find a large map of the town on the exterior wall of the public toilets. There are two grounds shown on the map, one marked 'A.S.O.', the other marked 'K.V.O. Oostende'. The present club play at the ground marked 'A.S.O.', so this is the one you want. It is a 30-minute walk from the ferry terminal. You will have to be quick if you want to catch the 17.45 boat back to Dover after the match. With a bit of luck, you may be able to take the bus which passes near the ground at 16.45.

This season the club are playing all their home games on Sunday's at 15.00; the sole exception was the first home league match on 5th September 1987 which kicked off at 20.00 on Saturday night. The capacity of the ground is probably around 12,000, and there are two main stands joined to each other, with seating 500 in each - on the south side of the ground. The opposite side consists of a narrow covered terrace, while the north end (near the beach) has open terracing in somewhat shoddy conditions. The most modern part of the ground is a large cantilever roof which covers a large terrace behind the south goal. It is a ground good enough for 2nd if not 1st Division football. If you arrive early you can see some wonderful shutters on the ticket office windows, painted in red, yellow and brown - worth taking a colour photo of.

On my visit there this season, admission for the covered standing areas was 100 BF. The club have regularly issued programmes since the merger (and probably before then as well) and this season's issue consists of a staggering 93 pages on glossy paper, for the price of 35 BF. It is more or less A5 sized and as one might expect, the content is mostly advertising. You will have to look very hard for the team line-ups which are well hidden inside! There are plenty of copies being sold outside the ground, although, as is usual in Belgium, most spectators didn't bother to buy copies.

Refreshments are available from a kiosk in the south-west corner of the ground and there are numerous bars, and restaurants opposite the railway station & ferry terminal. A highly recommended visit for a groundhopper, particularly those with a limited budget or those who want to make a gradual start to groundhopping on the continent.

Please let Steve and I know whether you would like to see further 'Club-Files' on continental clubs. Readers are, of course, welcome to submit similar articles if they wish. Finally, I must say that I am indebted to 'Noddy' of Crews for providing me with the details of the merger.

CHRISTOPHER AUNSLINE

Well, can any of our readers supply Club-File articles on independent continental clubs? If so, please send them to us, together with photos of the ground if possible, programme cover, etc, and also maps if available. We will do our best to feature them in future issues.

The roof, a cantilever supported from above, is made up of honey-comb like sections with bits sticking out at odd angles. This stand is flanked by two smaller stands, and the rest of the ground has terracing round a running track, with the long side covered by a small cantilever roof. Tuesday (7 Sept) was our last day in Nantes. Wednesday saw a full list of French League fixtures, but fortunately, the Nantes v. Marseille match was brought forward to Tuesday night as the live game on Cable TV. After you've been to the Parc des Princes, I recommend you visit the incredible Stade de la Beaujoire next and you'll probably come away a confirmed Nantes supporter. Nantes used to play at the Stade Marcel Saupin, near the station, but moved in 1984 because the Marcel Saupin was too cramped. The Stadium still stands, built in the English style, and it is a solid case of concrete. One of the stands overhangs the river, not unlike Fulham. The new Stade de la Beaujoire, opened in May 1984, is a triumph of stadium planning and architecture. It is situated on the Northern outskirts of the town, well served by road and public transport. Parking is abundant, as the Stadium is in a 'green-field' site. My ticket cost just £2.50, and I had probably the best value for money at any match I've been to. The entrance is on the West side, and once inside there is a wide space all around the Stadium. There is continuous large-stepped terracing around three sides and proper seating on the West side, all covered by a continuous cantilever roof. The sides rise up from the ends, so that more people can watch from the sides. Rather than stand up on the terraces, supporters in France, Spain and Italy prefer to sit down because the steps are quite deep, unlike our own shallow terracing.

It was a warm evening, and I watched the first-half from behind the South goal, along with Nantes' young hard-core, who call themselves the 'Section Loire Side'. Nantes led 1-0 at half-time, during which I nipped past the steward and found myself a superb seat high up on the East side alongside the half-way line. The atmosphere in the second half was incredible as the teams provided superb entertainment in an attacking match. Nantes, with Ma Johnston prominent, put on a brilliant performance, sending the 25,000 crowd into ecstasy with a 5-0 victory. The only disappointment was the newspaper-style programme, which was poor value at 5F (50p). Finally, I recommend you use 'Situ', a computerized information bank detailing public transport in Nantes. Key in 'Stade de la Beaujoire' and it tells you how to get there and even gives you a print-out.

They seem to think of everything.

After Nantes, we went down to Barcelona in Spain and I will be telling you all about this trip in Part 2 of my feature next month, together with some more photographs of the tour. And there will be a final part in the April issue with yet more photos, so keep watching this space.



Nantes' Stade de la Beaujoire. A view of this impressive stadium looking north. No segregation here, but Nantes seem to have no trouble.



FREE CONSULTATIONS 800

[illegible]

All Agents Receive Complete Training
Learn How to Sell New Commercial Products

Received Office for Records, December 1992

Business Order Management (BOM) software

STEVE EARL (GFC)
FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES
BROAD ST., BUNGAY,
SUFFOLK NR26 1AH

RULE CLEARANCE (TWO per YEAR)
Phone 800-367 or 410 for details.

THE
**GROUND-
HOPPER**
MAGAZINE

THE
**GROUND-
HOPPER**
MAGAZINE

*when you
write to
any of our
advertisers*

**JOIN THE
GROUND-
HOPPERS
CLUB**

2018 7th International Conference on
Mechanical Engineering and Technology
November 1-3, 2018, Shanghai, China

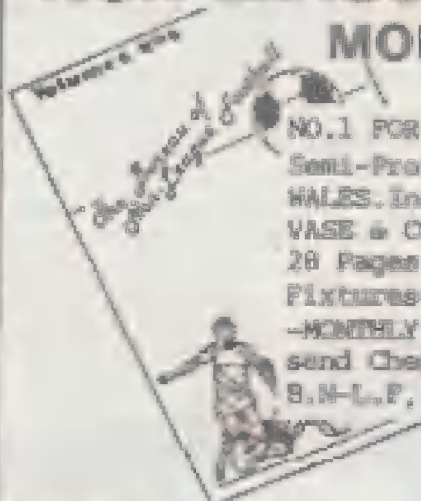
本報地址：廣州西關第十甫路。電話：二二三三、二二三四。
訂閱處：廣州西關第十甫路。電話：二二三三、二二三四。

【题解】此题考查的是对《孟子·梁惠下》中“孟子曰：‘王侯将相宁有种乎？’”这句话的理解。这句话的意思是：“王侯将相难道天生就有爵位吗？”

STREET ADDRESS:
CITY AND STATE ZIP
OR COUNTRY
CITY AND STATE ZIP
CITY AND STATE ZIP

**THE
GROUND-
HOPPER**

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL MONTHLY MAGAZINE



NO.1 FOR NON-LEAGUE TABLES,Featuring all Major
Semi-Professional Football in ENGLAND SCOTLAND
WALES.Including all FA Competitions CUP TROPHY
VASE & COUNTY-Now in its 7th successful season
28 Pages Packed with -
Fixtures-Results-Statistics-News & Information
-MONTHLY - SEPTEMBER TO MAY - FOR SUBSCRIPTION
send Cheque/P.O. for £6-50 + £1 P/P payable to
B.N.L.P. 173,LESTONSTONE ROAD, LONDON, E15 2

Published by: **NON LEAGUE FOOTBALL BOARD**

11 HAWTHORN AVENUE, SANCTON, CANAL, CRO. 11

Please send me _____ issues of NON LEAGUE
FOOTBALL FOCUS, starting with _____ issue
(at \$5p per issue inc. p&p) to:-
Mr. _____
at _____

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL FOCUS

The Non-League Monthly Committee meets every month, Wednesday and Wednesday evening. The Non-League game is held at a different interval and a referee, and Club Spotlight each month. £6.00 for all 2 games on 55p each. Cheques/PD's payable to Non-League Football Fund.

NON-LEAGUE TRAVELLER

THE Weekly Magazine for the
Non-League Footballer

Features: News stories, commentaries,
transfer to international news,
full programme listings, league
positions, league & cup news
etc.

For subscription details, please
write to the address below.

Write to: **Non-League Traveller**
c/o The Football Association
25, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF

The Weekly Magazine for the
Non-League Footballer

Top Office Suite, Grosvenor Road, Broadway
Worce, WR11 1DA

DISPLAY ADVERTS FROM £10

Why not take advantage of
our special offer of Display
Advertising in *Non-League*
highlighted new Non-League
months?

Interested? Then go back to
the rates shown below.

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Quarter Page | |
| 1 issue | £10 |
| 3 issues | £27 |

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Half Page | |
| 1 issue | £18 |
| 3 issues | £50 |

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Full Page | |
| 1 issue | £35 |
| 3 issues | £90 |

Ideal for Programme Dealers,
Club Shop, Season
Memberships, Football
Publications, Advertising,
etc. etc.

Note: We can prepare the
adverts for you if you cannot
supply a letterhead ready
adverts at NO EXTRA COST

Please make all cheques or
postal orders payable to
Groundhopper Magazine

We shall send adverts to us
12th of month for a re-
sponse in our next issue.
If you cannot supply letters
ready advert, please allow a
further 3 days to a advert
must reach us on 30th of the
month to appear in next
issue.

Send your advert, remittance
and return of address you
want listed in appear in

Groundhopper Magazine
439 Abchurch Road
Wandsworth
London SW18 5LE

Remember, we are on sale at
many grounds and our clubs
are growing and the advert
will be well's read

MARKET PLACE

DONS OUTLOOK

THE 32-PAGE MAGAZINE THAT GIVES YOU:

- * NEWS * FEATURES * COMMENT
- * PHOTOS * PROGRAMME REVIEWS
- * COMPETITIONS * INTERVIEWS
- * + LOTS MORE IN EVERY ISSUE!

For sample copy, send 70p to:-

ROBERT DALL, FLAT 4, RASHLEY RD,
PEARSON STREET, LONDON, SW8 3AS.

IT'S THE REGULAR MAGAZINE FOR ALL
WIMBLEDON FANS! Great Value!

THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME DIRECTORY

Organisers of the International Programme Fair each year

The monthly magazine for programme collectors
and others interested in our national game.

PROGRAMME NEWS — ADVERTS SECTION —
MEMBERS' LETTERS — DETAILS OF PROGRAMME
FAIRS — COLLECTORS' MEETINGS
— MANY OTHER FEATURES —

Subscription £6.00 for 12 issues — overseas £7.50.

The 100th issue was celebrated in March 1983.

Ordinary Back Issues 50p — the 100th Issue £1.00

F.P.D. Pennants 50p — F.P.D. Badges £1.00

For further details or to subscribe contact:

DAVID STACEY (Editor)

The F.P.D. (Dept G-Hop)

88 Southend Road, Wickford, Essex SS11 8EN

Telephone: (0268) 732041

Please write your name and address below and send this form
together with the appropriate remittance plus a large S.A.E.
(A4) size.

NAME

ADDRESS

MY PROGRAMME INTERESTS ARE

THE

GROUND-HOPPER

MAGAZINE

SOUVENIRS BY MAIL ORDER

ALL GOODS ARE FULLY GUARANTEED AND PRICES ARE INCLUSIVE OF POST & PACK

Continuing the success of our magazine by providing our *Exclusive Souvenir Range*, all of which are endorsed with our logo on. They are all good quality products, fully guaranteed, and all prices are inclusive of p + p. Ordering is simple. Just complete the form below (plain paper will do if you do not wish to cut your magazine), and send it, together with a cheque or postal order, made payable to Groundhopper Magazine to:

Groundhopper Magazine, 438 Merton Road, Wandsworth, London, SW18 6LB

Please allow 7 to 10 days for goods to arrive.

If you are not fully satisfied, please return within 14 days for a full refund

ITEM A: LUXURY BINDERS

"Groundhopper Magazine" is not a magazine to be thrown away after it has been read. It is packed with interesting photos, news, features, and interesting facts & figures. That's why we have had these luxury Groundhopper Magazine binders made, so that you can keep your copies in mint condition, and readily available for future reference. With these superb de-luxe leather bound binders with magazine logo embossed in gold on spine, you will be able to store your copies so that they build up into a complete bound volume. Each binder is designed to take a whole year's supply (12 issues) with enough room at the back to store your quarterly "Hopper" Tourist Discount Club newsletters if you are a member. 1 binder costs £6.25, 3 binders costs £12.25 or 3 for £18.00

ITEM B: ENAMEL MUGS

Now you can drink to the success of our magazine with one of our great new Groundhopper Magazine drinking mugs. They have an enamel coating, and are red, with a black rim around the handle. On the side is our logo, which is in gold. They look very attractive and will make an ideal gift as well as being used by groundhoppers everywhere. 1 mug costs £2.35, 2 for £4.50, 3 for £6.45 and 4 will cost £8.20

ITEM C: GROUNDHOPPER'S NOTEBOOK

Throw away that old scribbler! The new exclusive Groundhopper Magazine notebook has arrived. These superb chunky notebooks have page after page ready for you to make notes of the match. They come in a selection of colours including black, red, and blue. 1 notebook costs £1.95, 2 for £3.75 or 3 one of each colour for £5.00

ITEM D: MATCH CARDS

One of the most frustrating aspects of groundhopping is turning up at the ground only to be told that a programme hasn't been produced for the match. Now with Groundhopper Magazine "Match Cards", you can keep a personal record of all the matches that you attend, whether a programme is issued or not. A completed "Match Card" can easily be slipped into your programme collection to complete the set, and even if a programme is issued, why not fill in a "Match Card" anyway and keep it with the programme for a personal reminder of the match, and ground, visited. They're printed on thick orange card, folded to reveal A5 programme size, and have enough space to fill in information about ground visited, game seen, scores, team line-ups, officials, etc. They are in pre-packed bags with 10 cards to a set. 1 set costs £1.50, 2 for £2.90, 3 for £4.20 or 4 sets for only £5.40

ITEM E: COASTERS

Treat yourself to a set of these fantastic coasters. Put your drink on these to give protection to your furniture. They come in a Groundhopper Magazine presentation box, and are in sets of six coasters. They are in bonded leather in red, with cork backs, with stamped gold logo on one side. 1 set costs £3.50, 2 sets for £6.75 or 3 for £9.75

ITEM F: PENS

Now you can take these new Groundhopper Magazine pens to the match to make your notes on the game. These marvellous ballpoint pens have chrome clips, press stud and nose, and come in yellow, with red logo of the magazine on the barrel. 1 pen costs 50p, 2 pens for 95p, 3 pens for £1.35 or 4 pens for £1.65

ORDER FORM

I would like to order the following:-

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Item A | @ total cost of £ | p line, p + p |
| Item B | @ total cost of £ | p line, p + p |
| Item C | @ total cost of £ | p line, p + p |
| Item D | @ total cost of £ | p line, p + p |
| Item E | @ total cost of £ | p line, p + p |
| Item F | @ total cost of £ | p line, p + p |
| GRAND TOTAL OF MY ORDER IS £ | | p |

Please deduct £1 if you are a member of the G.H.C. and your order comes to £1.00 or over. Minimum order £5.

All cheques payable to Groundhopper Magazine

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

.....

Send your order to:-
GROUNDHOPPER MAGAZINE
438 MERTON ROAD, WANDSWORTH
LONDON, SW18 6LB

Please allow 7 to 10 days for delivery of your order

NON-LEAGUE

ACTION



Ton Pentre striker Micky George breaks free of the Abergavenny defence to put his side 2-0 up in the home Welsh Cup tie at Ynys Park. Photo: David Collins.



Norman Bell (ex-Wolves), now Asst. Manager of Darwen (and player) on the ball in the white shorts v. Atherton L.R. NW Counties League Div 1 game at Anchor Road, which the visitors won 2-1 on 31.10.87. Photo: S. Jackson.



Notts Alliance action from Basford v. Clifton All Whites. All Whites clear a corner.
Photo: Ron Bagshaw.

ACTION PIX



York RI v. Tees Poly. Pass back to the goal-keeper as Poly put on the pressure during their 2-1 win. Photo: Ron Bagshaw.

APPLICATION FORM FOR 12-MONTH SUBSCRIPTION TO

THE **GROUND- HOPPER** MAGAZINE

I would like to take out a 12-month subscription to
Groundhopper Magazine commencing with the

issue and enclose the following:

198...

Please tick ()

☐ £10 plus 12 self-addressed sticky labels.

☐ £7.20 plus 12 stamped addressed envelopes (at least A5 size). Stamps should be for 26p each.

☐ £7.20 plus 12 self-addressed sticky labels and 12 x 26p stamps.

Please Note:

If you are paying £7.20, please ensure that 26p stamps are provided as we cannot make up the difference if postage is underpaid, and this could cause severe delays in the magazine reaching you each month.

SPECIAL OFFER

Limited period — while stocks last!

All new subscribers will receive *free Groundhopper Magazine* ballpoint pen with chrome clip, press-stud and nose in yellow with red magazine logo on the barrel. WORTH 50p.

☐ Please send a sample copy of
Groundhopper Magazine FREE OF
CHARGE. 26p in stamps must be
enclosed to cover postage.

TAKE OUT A 12-MONTH SUBSCRIPTION NOW FOR

THE **GROUND- HOPPER** MAGAZINE



First edition of 'The Groundhopper'

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

**Now available only on
subscription — not available
at club shops.**

INSIDE

Special Offer + your Subscription Form

These are just a few of the comments we have received about the magazine since our launch in September 1987.

"May I offer my congratulations on what is an excellent and very professional publication."

S.P., Hednesford

"I must say how impressed I am by Groundhopper Magazine."

A.D., Cheshire

"Groundhopper Magazine is the most interesting and enjoyable Non-League magazine now available."

P.G., Cheam, Surrey

"A thousand congratulations. It is so crammed with content and photos."

C.A., Southgate, London

"I must say your magazine is the best value for money publication in both League and Non-League football that I have had the pleasure of reading."

J.B., Walthamstow, London

"I think your magazine is excellent — just what Non-League football needed and I hope it goes from strength to strength."

L.E.K., Chesham, Bucks.

"Congratulations on your new magazine. I was very impressed and look forward to future editions."

M.M., Solihull, West Midlands

"Congratulations on your excellent magazine. I think it makes an interesting and worthwhile contribution to the Non-League scene."

S.C., Basingstoke, Hants.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A SUBSCRIBER OR DO NOT WISH TO TAKE OUT A SUBSCRIPTION, PLEASE PASS THIS LEAFLET ON TO A FRIEND WHO MAY WISH TO SUBSCRIBE.

Here's what Bryan Horsnell of
Football Monthly had to say about
 the magazine recently . . .

THERE IS a growing band of football followers whose hobby is 'collecting' football grounds throughout England! There are quite a number who have visited every Football League ground in the country and many are now turning their attention to the non-League grounds.

These travelling fans refer to their hobby as 'groundhopping', so it's not surprising that the magazine launched in September, 1987, to cater for this pastime, is called *THE GROUND-HOPPER*.

Editor is Steve King, who used to run the National Badge Club, and he is to be congratulated on producing a first-class 44-page magazine which has something for everybody interested in the non-League scene.

EXCELLENT

As well as non-League news there are features and articles on programmes, badges, clubs, grounds and several excellent illustrations.

One of the contributors of photos to the November issue was 11-year-old Richard Owen, of Tamworth, who has already visited over 200 grounds in all parts of the country!

Many of the more established editors of 'collectors' publications could learn a lot from the quality, design and presentation of this magazine, which is excellent value at 70p.

Copies can be obtained at a number of non-League grounds or, in case of difficulty, a sample copy can be obtained from *Groundhopper Magazine*, 24 Poplar Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3JR, for £1 including postage and packing. A subscription for 12 issues costs just £10, including first class postage.

THE GROUND- HOPPER MAGAZINE

Since our launch in September 1987, we have made efforts to provide a quality monthly Non-League football magazine that will appeal to a large number of readers, whether they are 100% fanatical groundhoppers who don't support any particular team or just casual followers of the Non-League scene.

We think that the steady improvements we have made since Issue 1, and the further improvements planned for the months to come, are an indication of how ambitious we are at *Groundhopper Magazine*. We want to succeed where others have failed, and we think we will by continuing to produce a quality magazine of varied content to suit all tastes. We will continue to bring Non-League news, programme and badge columns, letters competitions, features and articles on continental groundhopping, and will continue to bring you the very best in action and ground photographs. We will be featuring several Non-League clubs each month in 2-page articles, which are exclusive to *Groundhopper Magazine*. These contain photos of the grounds and facilities, programme details, maps, travel details, etc. And our extremely popular souvenir pull-out on a different club each month has been a great success and we will continue to bring this to you each month. We won't become complacent. We aim to make the magazine even better value for money with more photos, new features — in fact, more of everything.

And remember — we are publishing 12-months a year, so your subscription is even better value for money.

If you are still not convinced and would like to see a copy before committing yourself to a subscription, we will send you a *FREE* sample copy. Just send us 26p stamps and indicate on the form, and we'll send you a copy.

STEVE KING
Editor

I enclose a cheque/postal order number to the value of £
 p made payable to *Groundhopper Magazine*.

Postcode

Name
 Address

APPLICATION FORM FOR SUBSCRIPTION



Please send completed application form, remittance, labels, envelopes/stamps to: —
Groundhopper Magazine, Subscriptions (Dept 1), 24 Poplar Road, Wimbledon, London SW19 3JR.

As it is a time-consuming job to type out subscriber's names and addresses on envelopes, we MUST have self-addressed labels or s.a.e.'s with all applications.

WARNING